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# ADVENTURE COMICS

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**NO. 495 JANUARY, 1983**

***** Editor: CARL GAFFORD *****

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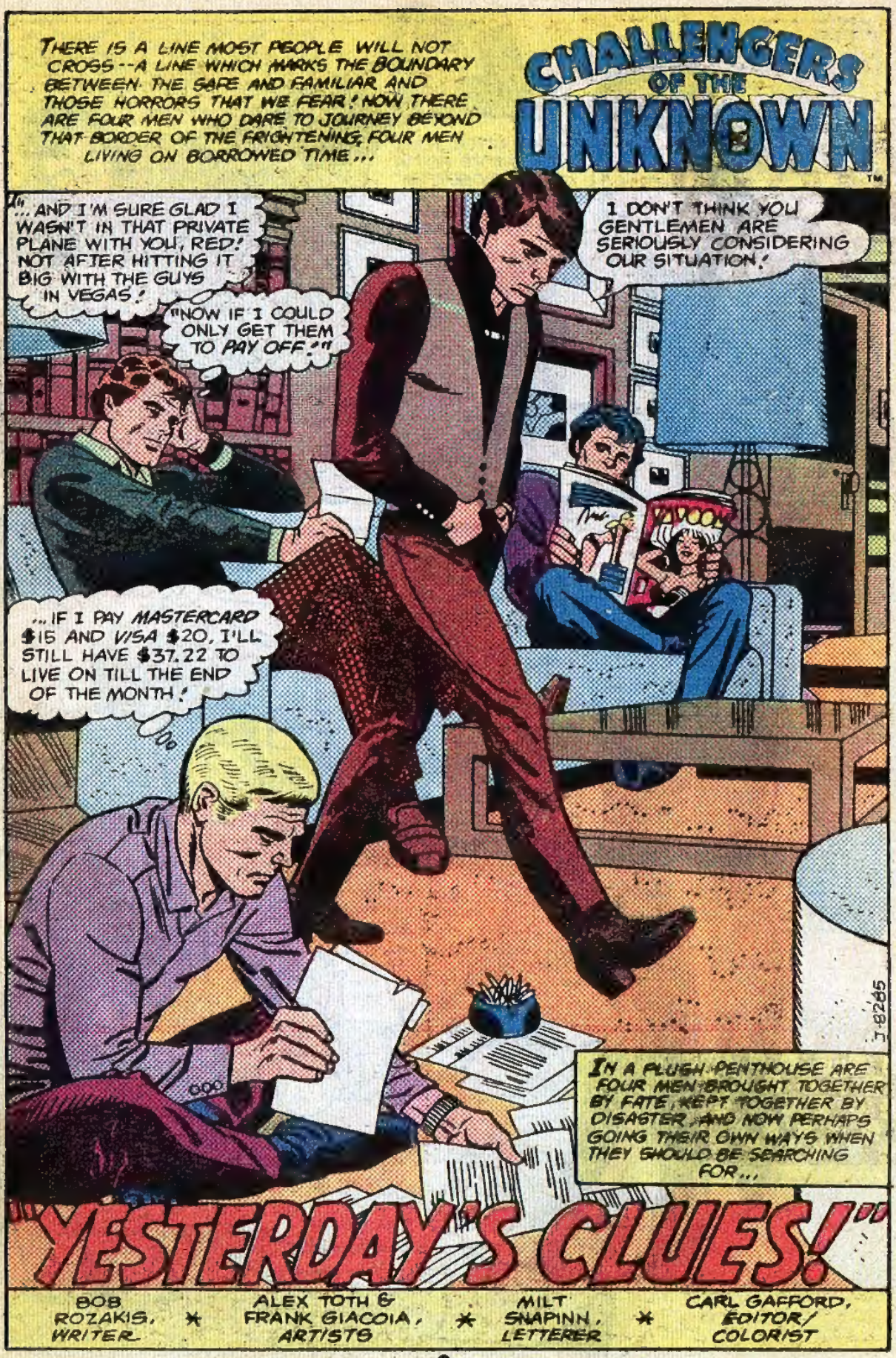
ADVENTURE COMICS, Vol. 48, No. 495, January, 1983. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1982 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024. Annual subscription rate $15.00. Outside U.S.A. $16.00.

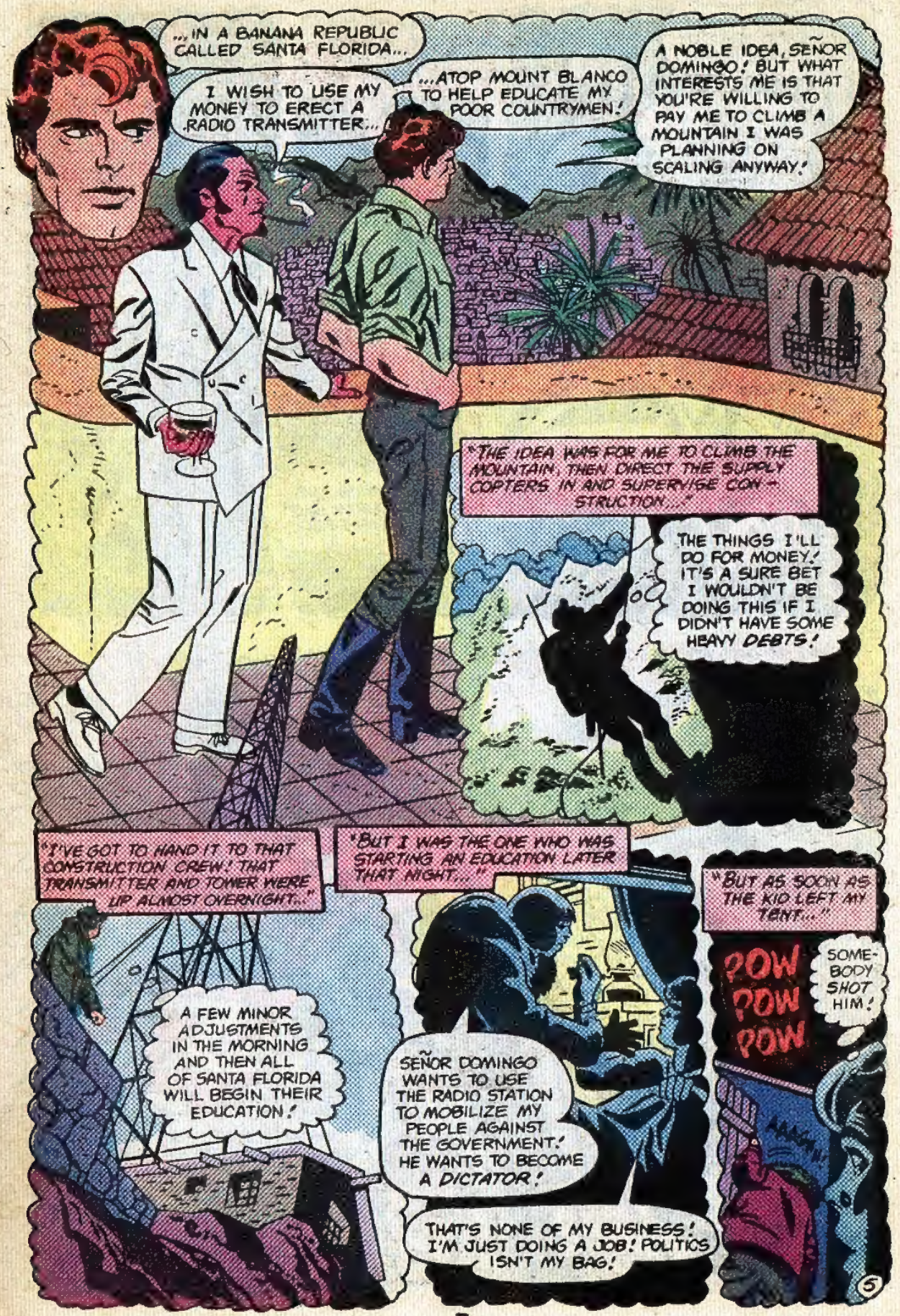
POSTMASTER: Send address change to DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024.


THERE IS A LINE MOST PEOPLE WILL NOT CROSS--A LINE WHICH MARKS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE SAFE AND FAMILIAR AND THOSE HORRORS THAT WE FEAR! NOW THERE ARE FOUR MEN WHO DARE TO JOURNEY BEYOND THAT BORDER OF THE FRIGHTENING, FOUR MEN LIVING ON BORROWED TIME...
CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN
...AND I'M SURE GLAD I WASN'T IN THAT PRIVATE PLANE WITH YOU, RED! NOT AFTER HITTING IT BIG WITH THE GUYS IN VEGAS!
"NOW IF I COULD ONLY GET THEM TO PAY OFF!"
I DON'T THINK YOU GENTLEMEN ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING OUR SITUATION!
...IF I PAY MASTERCARD $15 AND VISA $20, I'LL STILL HAVE $37.22 TO LIVE ON TILL THE END OF THE MONTH!
J-82265
IN A PLUSH PENTHOUSE ARE FOUR MEN BROUGHT TOGETHER BY FATE, KEPT TOGETHER BY DISASTER, AND NOW PERHAPS GOING THEIR OWN WAYS WHEN THEY SHOULD BE SEARCHING FOR...
"YESTERDAY'S CLUES!"
BOB ROZAKIS, WRITER ★ ALEX TOTH & FRANK GIACOIA, ARTISTS ★ MILT SNAPINN, LETTERER ★ CARL GAFFORD, EDITOR/COLORIST

NEED I REMIND YOU THAT SOMEONE BOOBY-TRAPPED THE PLANE WE WERE IN--
--AND AFTER FOUR DAYS WE'RE NOT A STEP CLOSER TO FINDING OUT WHO IT WAS...OR EVEN WHO THE TARGET WAS!
WHAT'RE YOU GETTIN' BLOWN ALL OUTTA JOINT FOR, PROF? SOONER OR LATER, THE PERPETRATORS WILL SHOW THEMSELVES!
WHO WANTS A BREW?
WOOSH
NOT ME--BUT WHILE YOU'RE GONE, I THINK I'LL PERUSE YOUR PERIODICAL! EH--?
"WAR AND PEACE"?!
THE DUMB JOCK IS READING TOLSTOY?!
...$14.78 FOR THE PHONE COMPANY, $76.03 FOR ELECTRICITY...
YOU CAN RELAX, DAVIS! WE ALREADY PROVED YOU WEREN'T THE TARGET!
BUT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IF I SHOULD BE LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER!
2

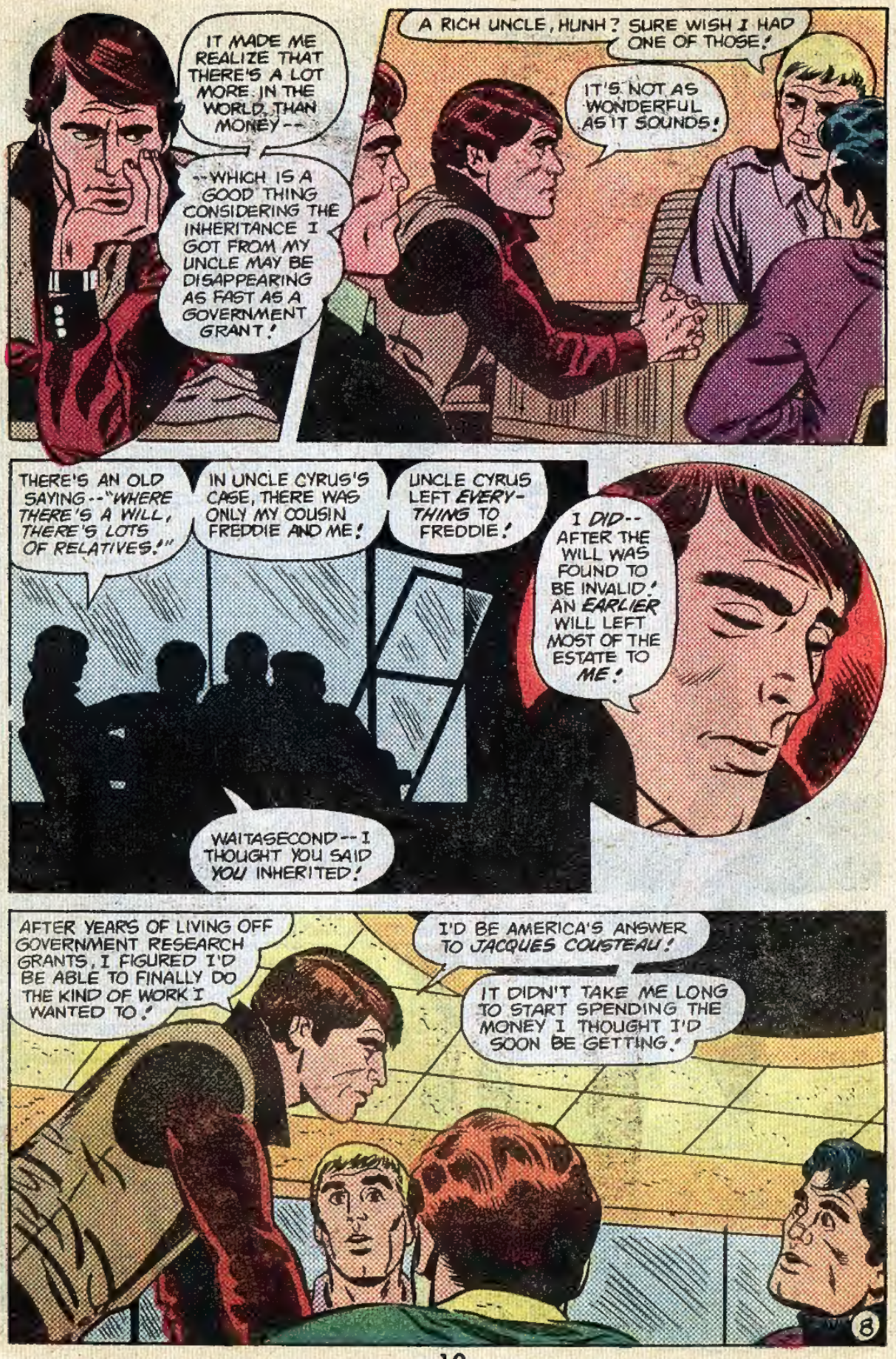
GET AS PARANOID AS YOU WANT, HALEY-- BUT IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IN THE LEAST IF I WAS THE TARGET! LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I WAS DOING LAST WEEK BEFORE THEY CALLED ME TO APPEAR WITH YOU GUYS ON "INCREDIBLE PEOPLE"!
"I WAS IN MY OFFICE IN A TEXAS AIRPORT..."
FLYING EXPLOSIVES IS A VERY RISKY BUSINESS, MR. STALEY!
THAT'S WHY WE'LL PAY YOU $5,000 FOR THIS SINGLE DELIVERY, MR. MORGAN!
THE JOB IS UNDOUBTEDLY WORTH MORE, BUT THAT'S ALL THE MONEY WE HAVE!
"TALK ABOUT BAD LUCK! WHILE I WAS FLYING, THE CRATES OF NITRO BROKE LOOSE..."
CAN'T RISK LANDING WITH THAT STUFF BOUNCING AROUND! I'VE GOT TO GET IT OUT OF THE PLANE PRONTO!
SNAP
BUMP!
POP!
LOOKS LIKE THE MINERS ARE UP THE CREEK...AND I'M GOING TO BE OUT FIVE THOUSAND BUCKS! UNLESS...
WE'RE JUST A GROUP OF POOR ALASKAN PROSPECTORS, BUT IF WE CAN BLAST OPEN THAT MOUNTAIN, THERE MAY BE ENOUGH GOLD TO MAKE US ALL RICH!
I'M AN OUT-OF-WORK TEST PILOT TRYING TO MAKE A LIVING, FRIEND! IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL TAKE MY MONEY UP FRONT!
PERHAPS YOU'D PREFER A SHARE OF THE STRIKE INSTEAD OF CASH?
"AND WHILE I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE A WAY OUT OF THE MESS..."
THAT CRAZY FOOL! WHAT'S HE BUZZING US FOR?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'M GUESSING HE WANTS US TO CLEAR OUT OF HERE!
"STALEY WAS POOR, BUT HE WASN'T A DOPE--"

"--WHICH WAS A GOOD THING OR HE'D HAVE BEEN SPLATTERED ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE WHEN THAT NITRO HIT THE GROUND..."
KABOOM!
A DIRECT HIT... EVEN IF THAT WASN'T THE WAY WE PLANNED ON BLASTING!
"AND LIKE I SAID, THAT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF MY BAD LUCK..."
THANK YOU, MR. MORGAN-- THE BLAST UNCOVERED A RICH VEIN OF GOLD! MY PARTNERS AND I WILL BE MILLIONAIRES!
AND I'VE GOT A MEASLY $5,000 TO SHOW FOR IT!
FIVE THOUSAND THAT I PUT DOWN ON MY NEW PLANE-- THE ONE THAT'S NOW PART OF THAT MOUNTAIN WE CRASHED INTO!
AND THE TOPPER IS-- THOSE PROSPECTORS WERE DIGGING UP AN OLD ESKIMO BURIAL GROUND! THE ESKIMOS WEREN'T TOO HAPPY WITH MY PART IN IT!
SO WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? THAT ANGRY ESKIMOS BOOBY-TRAPPED THE PLANE?
C'MON, ACE! THIS ISN'T SOME DOPEY TV-MOVIE!
I'VE GOT TO AGREE WITH HIM--
--BUT MAYBE WE'RE ON TO SOMETHING! WHAT WERE YOU DOING LAST WEEK, RYAN?
ME? I WAS IN SOUTH AMERICA...


...IN A BANANA REPUBLIC CALLED SANTA FLORIDA...
I WISH TO USE MY MONEY TO ERECT A RADIO TRANSMITTER...
...ATOP MOUNT BLANCO TO HELP EDUCATE MY POOR COUNTRYMEN!
A NOBLE IDEA, SEÑOR DOMINGO! BUT WHAT INTERESTS ME IS THAT YOU'RE WILLING TO PAY ME TO CLIMB A MOUNTAIN I WAS PLANNING ON SCALING ANYWAY!
"THE IDEA WAS FOR ME TO CLIMB THE MOUNTAIN, THEN DIRECT THE SUPPLY COPTERS IN AND SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION..."
THE THINGS I'LL DO FOR MONEY! IT'S A SURE BET I WOULDN'T BE DOING THIS IF I DIDN'T HAVE SOME HEAVY DEBTS!
"I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO THAT CONSTRUCTION CREW! THAT TRANSMITTER AND TOWER WERE UP ALMOST OVERNIGHT..."
"BUT I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS STARTING AN EDUCATION LATER THAT NIGHT..."
"BUT AS SOON AS THE KID LEFT MY TENT..."
POW POW POW
SOMEBODY SHOT HIM!
A FEW MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN THE MORNING AND THEN ALL OF SANTA FLORIDA WILL BEGIN THEIR EDUCATION!
SEÑOR DOMINGO WANTS TO USE THE RADIO STATION TO MOBILIZE MY PEOPLE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT! HE WANTS TO BECOME A DICTATOR!
THAT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS! I'M JUST DOING A JOB! POLITICS ISN'T MY BAG!
5

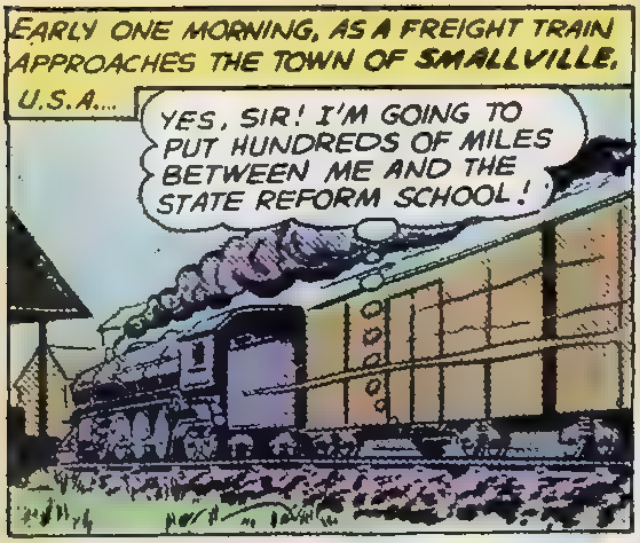
SEÑOR, I AM DYING! BUT AS YOU SAID, IT IS NOT YOUR FIGHT!
WHAT KIND OF MURDERING SWINE IS DOMINGO, GUNNING DOWN KIDS?
YOU'RE WRONG, FELLA! IT IS MY FIGHT NOW!
"AFTER CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN, SCALING THE TOWER AFTER DOMINGO WAS A SNAP..
POW
...EVEN IF HE DID HAVE A LOADED GUN..."
THAT'S THE FOURTH SHOT HE'S FIRED!
KAPOW POW
FIVE...AND SIX! NOW HE'S OUT OF BULLETS!
"I WAS UP THAT TOWER SO FAST I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER CLIMBING IT..."
WE'VE BOTH GOT THE SAME WEAPONS NOW, DOMINGO--OUR BARE HANDS!
HOLD IT! DON'T STEP BACK!
HA! YOU THINK TO TRICK ME, SEÑOR, BUT I AM NO FOOL!
ANGER 0,000 VOLTS
AAAAAAAKKK
RROZ
DOMINGO ENDED UP BEING A HERO--HIS RADIO STATION ACTUALLY IS BEING USED TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE! BUT I SUPPOSE SOME OF HIS CRONIES COULD BE AFTER ME FOR REVENGE!
6

MAYBE... BUT NOT LIKELY! WE HAVE A CHOICE -- ESKIMOS OR SOUTH AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARIES!
SO MAYBE YOU'RE THE REAL TARGET!
THE KID'S GOT A POINT, PROFESSOR! ANYBODY GET MAD AT YOU LAST WEEK?
YES, ONLY BECAUSE OF MY STUPIDITY! I WAS SHOWING OFF IN A NEW BOAT I'D BOUGHT AND CAPSIZED ONE OWNED BY SIR LAWRENCE REVERE...
I WAS TO HAVE RAISED A SUNKEN STATUE, BUT ALL MY EQUIPMENT IS DOWN THERE WITH IT -- THANKS TO YOU!
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, SIR LAWRENCE! HERE, I'VE GOT THE LATEST IN DIVING GEAR -- IT'S YOURS!
IN FACT, I'LL GO DOWN WITH YOU!
"REVERE SHOWED ME WHAT A REAL HERO IS..."
THERE'S THE STATUE, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'LL TOPPLE OVER INTO THAT CREVICE ANY SECOND NOW!
"NO SOONER DID SIR LAWRENCE HAVE IT SECURED WITH A CHAIN..."
IT'S TOPPLING OVER... AND SIR LAWRENCE IS HANGING ON TO GIVE ME A CHANCE TO DO MY PART.
"I DON'T KNOW HOW HE HELD ON SO LONG, BUT HE DID..."
THE STATUE'S SAVED, THANKS TO HIM...AND ALL FOR A GROUP OF VILLAGERS HE'S NEVER MET BEFORE TODAY!
I WONDER WHAT MADE HIM DO IT?
7

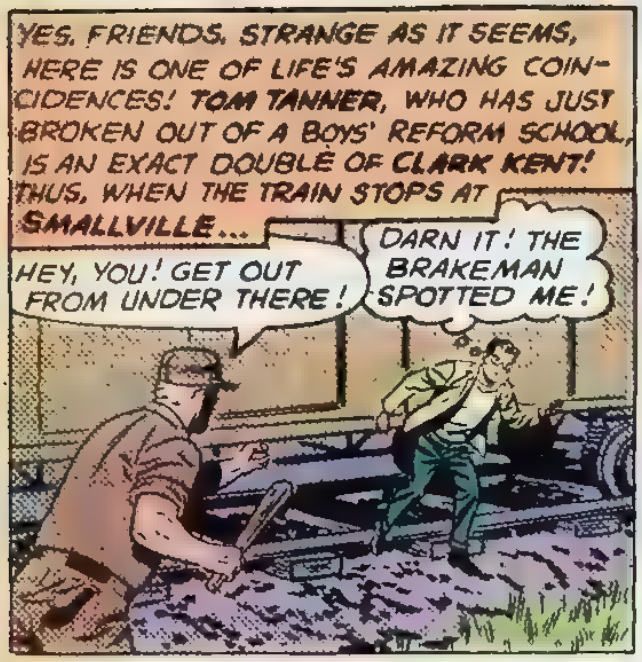

IT MADE ME REALIZE THAT THERE'S A LOT MORE IN THE WORLD THAN MONEY--
--WHICH IS A GOOD THING CONSIDERING THE INHERITANCE I GOT FROM MY UNCLE MAY BE DISAPPEARING AS FAST AS A GOVERNMENT GRANT!
A RICH UNCLE, HUNH? SURE WISH I HAD ONE OF THOSE!
IT'S NOT AS WONDERFUL AS IT SOUNDS!
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING--"WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S LOTS OF RELATIVES!"
IN UNCLE CYRUS'S CASE, THERE WAS ONLY MY COUSIN FREDDIE AND ME!
UNCLE CYRUS LEFT EVERY-THING TO FREDDIE!
I DID-- AFTER THE WILL WAS FOUND TO BE INVALID! AN EARLIER WILL LEFT MOST OF THE ESTATE TO ME!
WAITASECOND--I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU INHERITED!
AFTER YEARS OF LIVING OFF GOVERNMENT RESEARCH GRANTS, I FIGURED I'D BE ABLE TO FINALLY DO THE KIND OF WORK I WANTED TO!
I'D BE AMERICA'S ANSWER TO JACQUES COUSTEAU!
IT DIDN'T TAKE ME LONG TO START SPENDING THE MONEY I THOUGHT I'D SOON BE GETTING!
8

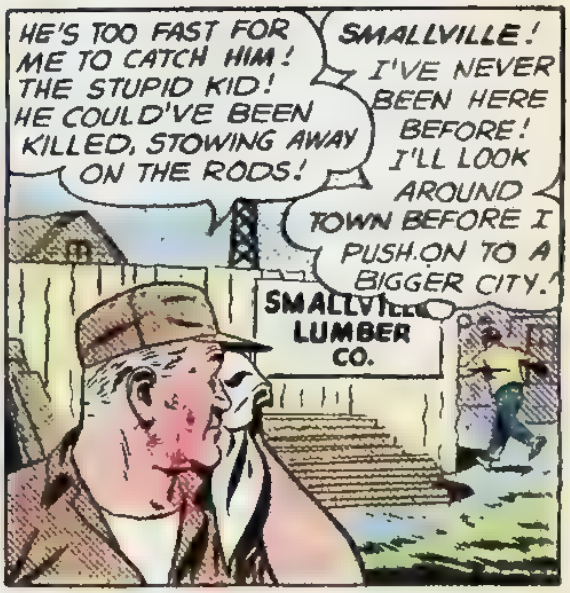
THAT MUST'VE TICKED OFF COUSIN FREDDIE NO END!
I THINK IT DID MORE THAN THAT! UNCLE CYRUS'S WILL STATES THAT FREDDIE INHERITS EVERY-THING IF I SHOULD DIE!
I'VE BEEN KEEPING THIS STORY TO MY-SELF--HOPING IT COULDN'T BE TRUE...
...BUT THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY OTHER ANSWER!
WELL, WE AIN'T GONNA FIND OUT BY SITTIN' AROUND HERE GUESSING! I SAY IT'S TIME WE HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH COUSIN FREDDIE!
C'MON, GUYS!
HANG ON A SECOND, FELLAS!
I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE TO TELL YOU BEFORE YOU GO CHASING AFTER THE WRONG MAN!
NEEDLESS TO SAY... TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

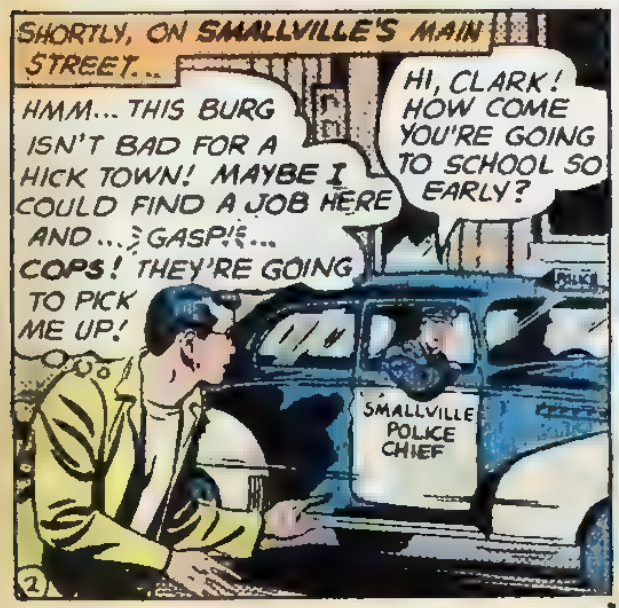
SUPERBOY
A LEGION SUPER HEROES SPECIAL! ™
DON'T WORRY, SUN BOY! I'LL COLLECT ALL SIX PARTS OF THE DREAD WEAPON WHICH THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES BURIED HERE IN THE PAST! I CAN ALMOST SEE THEM NOW, FLYING TO EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD TO HIDE THE LEAD CONTAINERS!
ART BY: GEORGE PAPP
COLORIST: CARL GAFFORD
AH, YES, SUPERBOY! AND WHAT A SHOCKING SURPRISE AWAITS YOU WHEN YOU BRING THE SIX CHESTS TO ME!
SOME OF SUPERBOY'S BEST FRIENDS LIVE IN THE FUTURE, IN THE 30TH CENTURY! KNOWN AS THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, THESE YOUTHS AND GIRLS EACH POSSESS DIFFERENT POWERS AND USE THEM TO HELP EACH OTHER SOLVE SUPER-PROBLEMS! THEREFORE, AS A MEMBER OF THE LEGION, IT IS ONLY RIGHT FOR SUPERBOY TO HELP HIS FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES FIGHT EVIL AND INJUSTICE ANYWHERE, ANY TIME! HOWEVER, LITTLE DOES THE BOY OF STEEL REALIZE, AS HE ASSISTS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE SUPER-HEROES CLUB IN A STRANGE MISSION, THAT HE IS DOOMED BY... The
SECRET OF THE SEVENTH SUPER-HERO!

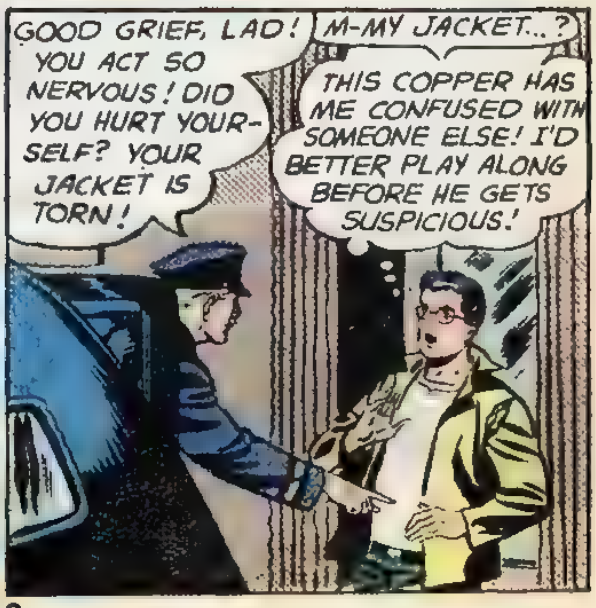

EARLY ONE MORNING, AS A FREIGHT TRAIN APPROACHES THE TOWN OF SMALLVILLE, U.S.A....
YES, SIR! I'M GOING TO PUT HUNDREDS OF MILES BETWEEN ME AND THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL!

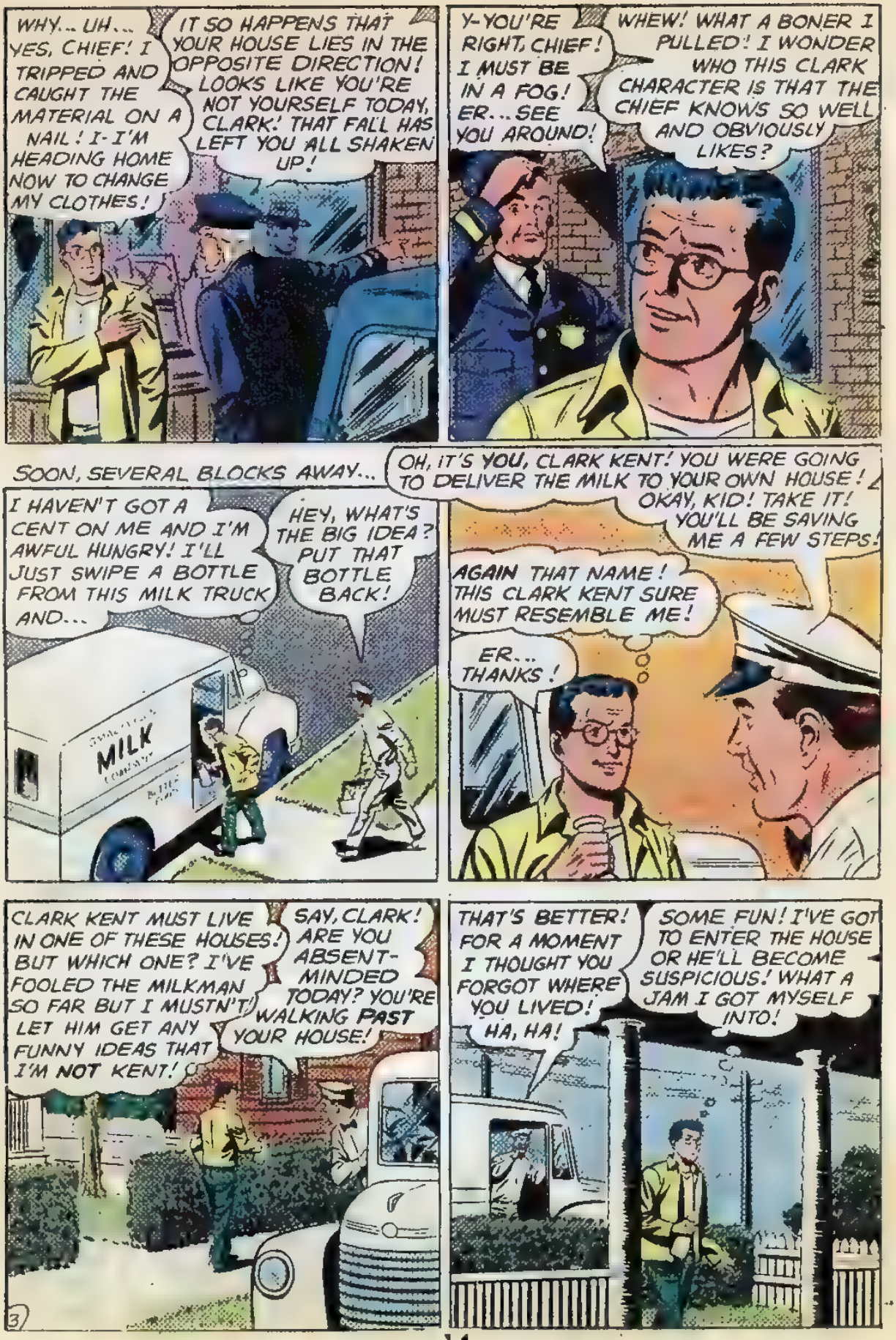
HOLD ON! WHO IS THIS RIDING THE RODS OF A BOX CAR? IT CERTAINLY LOOKS LIKE MEEK CLARK KENT! BUT CAN IT BE CLARK KENT?
I MADE A PERFECT ESCAPE FROM THE REFORMATORY AND THEY'LL NEVER GET ME BACK! FROM HERE ON, I PLAY IT SMART!


YES, FRIENDS, STRANGE AS IT SEEMS, HERE IS ONE OF LIFE'S AMAZING COINCIDENCES! TOM TANNER, WHO HAS JUST BROKEN OUT OF A BOYS' REFORM SCHOOL, IS AN EXACT DOUBLE OF CLARK KENT! THUS, WHEN THE TRAIN STOPS AT SMALLVILLE...
HEY, YOU! GET OUT FROM UNDER THERE!
DARN IT! THE BRAKEMAN SPOTTED ME!

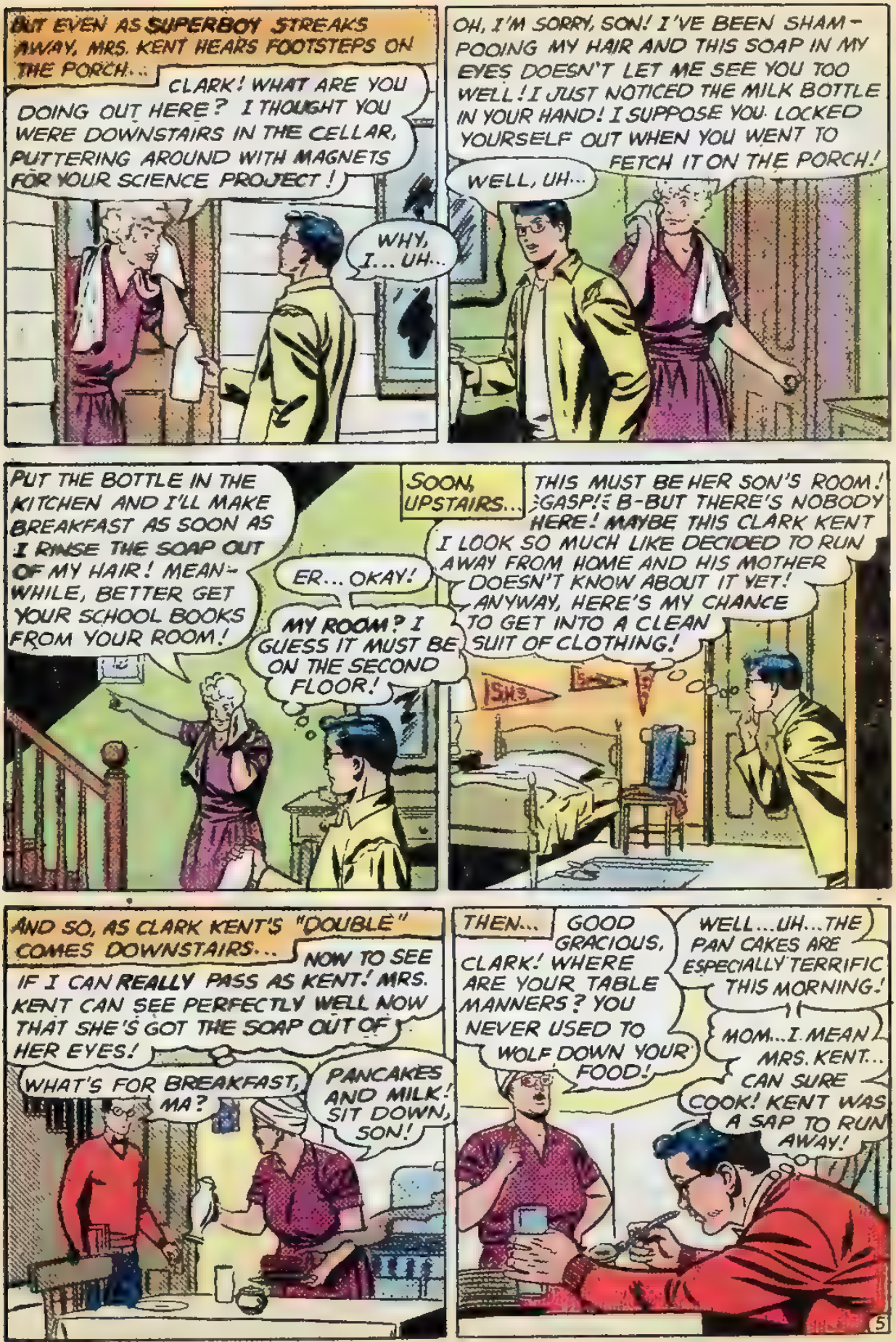

HE'S TOO FAST FOR ME TO CATCH HIM! THE STUPID KID! HE COULD'VE BEEN KILLED, STOWING AWAY ON THE RODS!
SMALLVILLE! I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE! I'LL LOOK AROUND TOWN BEFORE I PUSH ON TO A BIGGER CITY.
SMALLVILLE LUMBER CO.


SHORTLY, ON SMALLVILLE'S MAIN STREET...
HMM... THIS BURG ISN'T BAD FOR A HICK TOWN! MAYBE I COULD FIND A JOB HERE AND... GASP!... COPS! THEY'RE GOING TO PICK ME UP!
HI, CLARK! HOW COME YOU'RE GOING TO SCHOOL SO EARLY?
SMALLVILLE POLICE CHIEF
2

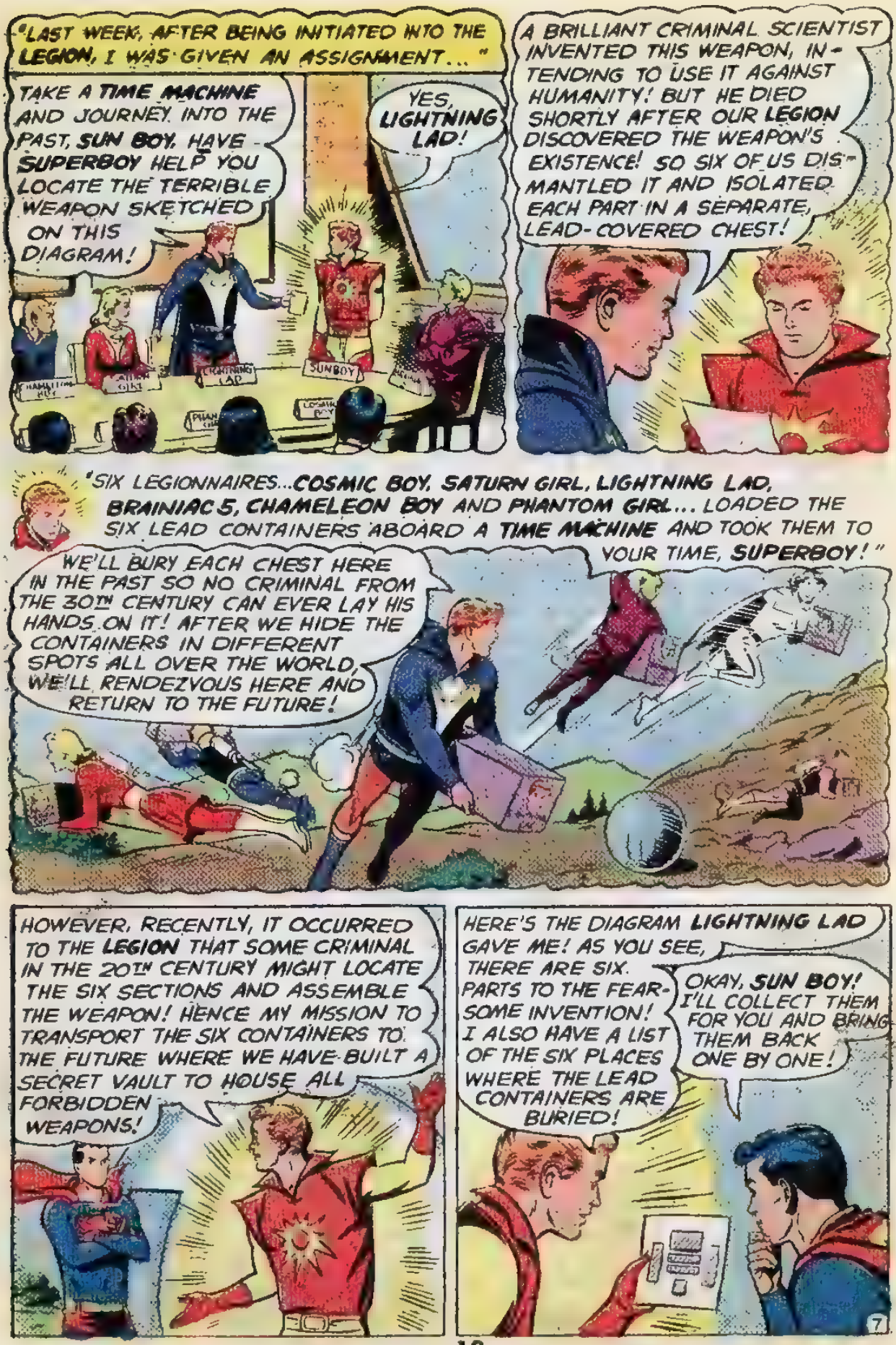

GOOD GRIEF, LAD! YOU ACT SO NERVOUS! DID YOU HURT YOURSELF? YOUR JACKET IS TORN!
M-MY JACKET..?
THIS COPPER HAS ME CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE ELSE! I'D BETTER PLAY ALONG BEFORE HE GETS SUSPICIOUS!


WHY... UH... YES, CHIEF! I TRIPPED AND CAUGHT THE MATERIAL ON A NAIL! I-I'M HEADING HOME NOW TO CHANGE MY CLOTHES!
IT SO HAPPENS THAT YOUR HOUSE LIES IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION! LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT YOURSELF TODAY, CLARK! THAT FALL HAS LEFT YOU ALL SHAKEN UP!
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT, CHIEF! I MUST BE IN A FOG! ER... SEE YOU AROUND!
WHEW! WHAT A BONER I PULLED! I WONDER WHO THIS CLARK CHARACTER IS THAT THE CHIEF KNOWS SO WELL AND OBVIOUSLY LIKES?
SOON, SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...
I HAVEN'T GOT A CENT ON ME AND I'M AWFUL HUNGRY! I'LL JUST SWIPE A BOTTLE FROM THIS MILK TRUCK AND...
HEY, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? PUT THAT BOTTLE BACK!
MILK
OH, IT'S YOU, CLARK KENT! YOU WERE GOING TO DELIVER THE MILK TO YOUR OWN HOUSE!
OKAY, KID! TAKE IT! YOU'LL BE SAVING ME A FEW STEPS!
AGAIN THAT NAME! THIS CLARK KENT SURE MUST RESEMBLE ME!
ER... THANKS!
CLARK KENT MUST LIVE IN ONE OF THESE HOUSES! BUT WHICH ONE? I'VE FOOLED THE MILKMAN SO FAR BUT I MUSTN'T LET HIM GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS THAT I'M NOT KENT!
SAY, CLARK! ARE YOU ABSENT-MINDED TODAY? YOU'RE WALKING PAST YOUR HOUSE!
3
THAT'S BETTER! FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT YOU FORGOT WHERE YOU LIVED! HA, HA!
SOME FUN! I'VE GOT TO ENTER THE HOUSE OR HE'LL BECOME SUSPICIOUS! WHAT A JAM I GOT MYSELF INTO!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN CLARK KENT'S SECRET WORKSHOP...
SINCE I GOT UP EARLY THIS MORNING AND MOM HASN'T CALLED ME FOR BREAKFAST YET, I THINK I'LL PUT IN SOME WORK ON MY SCIENCE PROJECT ON MAGNETS!
I'LL LISTEN TO THE MORNING NEWS WHILE I PUTTER AROUND...
HERE'S A BULLETIN THAT JUST CAME IN! A STRANGE OBJECT HAS LANDED WITH A BLINDING ELECTRICAL FLASH IN A FIELD JUST WEST OF MAPLE GROVE!
AS CLARK'S SUPER-VISION INSTANTLY CHECKS THE SPOT...
THE STATE POLICE ARE RACING TO THE AREA NOW!
GOLLY! IT LOOKS LIKE THE TYPE OF MACHINE USED BY THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES!
HMM... I SEE WHERE I DON'T GO TO SCHOOL THIS MORNING!
NEXT MOMENT, AS CLARK OPENS THE SECRET CELLAR PANEL CONTAINING HIS ROBOTS...
AFTER I ACTIVATE THIS CLARK KENT ROBOT AND SEND HIM TO SCHOOL IN MY PLACE, I'LL SWITCH TO SUPERBOY AND...
GASP!...GOSH, THE ROBOT WON'T WORK! SOMETHING MUST'VE GONE WRONG WITH ITS MECHANISM!
SAME TROUBLE WITH ALL OF THEM! THAT BLINDING ELECTRICAL FLASH WHEN THE TIME BUBBLE LANDED MUST'VE SHORT-CIRCUITED THEIR SENSITIVE CONTROL SYSTEM! AFTER ALL, THESE ROBOTS AREN'T FOOLPROOF! THEY'RE STILL PRETTY EXPERIMENTAL! I'D BETTER MAKE A SWIFT CHANGE TO SUPERBOY!
AN INSTANT AFTER...
CAN'T TAKE TIME TO TELL MOM WHERE I'M GOING! I WANT TO BE ON THE SCENE BEFORE THE STATE TROOPERS ARRIVE!
4

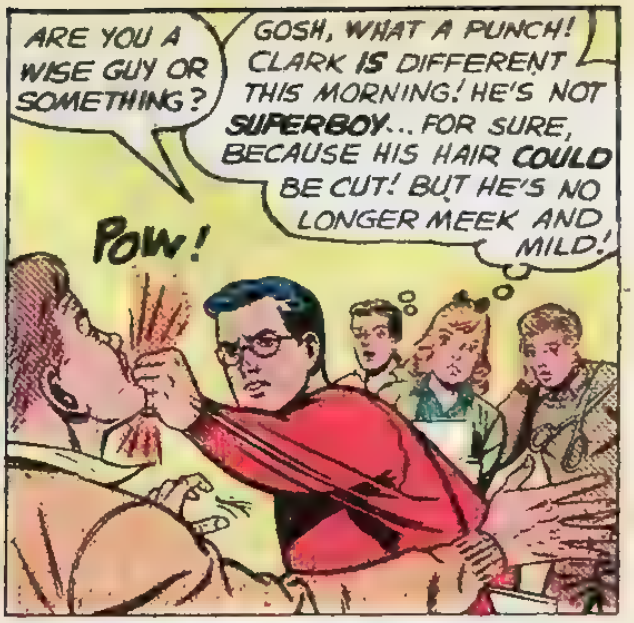

BUT EVEN AS SUPERBOY STREAKS AWAY, MRS. KENT HEARS FOOTSTEPS ON THE PORCH...
CLARK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? I THOUGHT YOU WERE DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CELLAR, PUTTERING AROUND WITH MAGNETS FOR YOUR SCIENCE PROJECT!
WHY, I... UH...
OH, I'M SORRY, SON! I'VE BEEN SHAMPOOING MY HAIR AND THIS SOAP IN MY EYES DOESN'T LET ME SEE YOU TOO WELL! I JUST NOTICED THE MILK BOTTLE IN YOUR HAND! I SUPPOSE YOU LOCKED YOURSELF OUT WHEN YOU WENT TO FETCH IT ON THE PORCH!
WELL, UH...
PUT THE BOTTLE IN THE KITCHEN AND I'LL MAKE BREAKFAST AS SOON AS I RINSE THE SOAP OUT OF MY HAIR! MEANWHILE, BETTER GET YOUR SCHOOL BOOKS FROM YOUR ROOM!
ER... OKAY!
MY ROOM? I GUESS IT MUST BE ON THE SECOND FLOOR!
SOON, UPSTAIRS...
THIS MUST BE HER SON'S ROOM! GASP! B-BUT THERE'S NOBODY HERE! MAYBE THIS CLARK KENT I LOOK SO MUCH LIKE DECIDED TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME AND HIS MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT YET! ANYWAY, HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GET INTO A CLEAN SUIT OF CLOTHING!
AND SO, AS CLARK KENT'S "DOUBLE" COMES DOWNSTAIRS...
NOW TO SEE IF I CAN REALLY PASS AS KENT! MRS. KENT CAN SEE PERFECTLY WELL NOW THAT SHE'S GOT THE SOAP OUT OF HER EYES!
WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST, MA?
PANCAKES AND MILK! SIT DOWN, SON!
THEN...
GOOD GRACIOUS, CLARK! WHERE ARE YOUR TABLE MANNERS? YOU NEVER USED TO WOLF DOWN YOUR FOOD!
WELL...UH...THE PAN CAKES ARE ESPECIALLY TERRIFIC THIS MORNING!
MOM...I MEAN MRS. KENT... CAN SURE COOK! KENT WAS A SAP TO RUN AWAY!
5

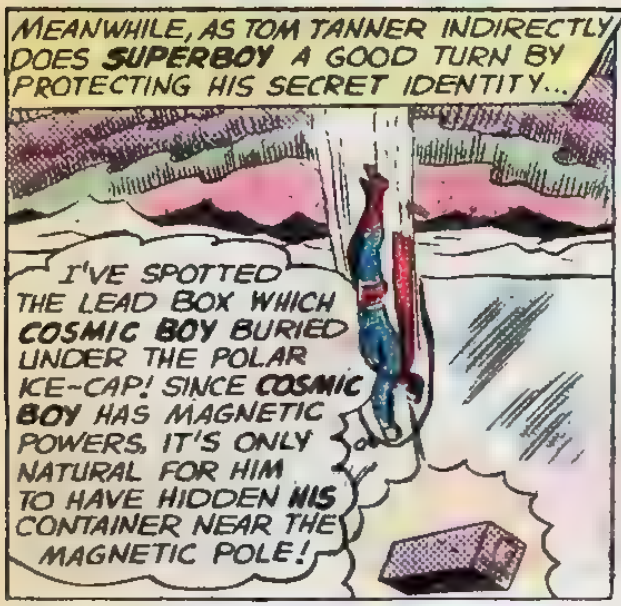
PRESENTLY...
YES, MA!
GRACIOUS! YOU REALLY MUST'VE ENJOYED BREAKFAST BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T LEFT A CRUMB! WELL, RUN ALONG, CLARK, BEFORE YOU'RE LATE FOR SCHOOL!
I MUST SEE IF I CAN IMPERSONATE CLARK KENT IN SCHOOL, TOO! I'D LIKE TO TAKE OVER HIS LIFE IF I CAN GET AWAY WITH IT!
MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE MAPLE GROVE, A TOWN 50 MILES FROM SMALLVILLE...
GREAT KRYPTON! IT'S ONE OF THE TIME MACHINES USED BY THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES TO TRAVEL FROM THE FUTURE TO THE PAST! BUT I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE YOUTH WHO'S EMITTING THAT BLINDING RADIANCE!
HI, SUPERBOY! I FIGURED THAT THE NEWS OF MY APPEARANCE WOULD SPREAD FAST AND THAT YOU'D SHOW UP EVEN FASTER TO CHECK UP ON THE REPORT! I'M SUN BOY, NEWEST MEMBER OF THE SUPER-HEROES CLUB, FROM THE 30TH CENTURY!
GLAD TO MEET YOU! BUT PLEASE CLOSE THE DOOR OF YOUR TIME MACHINE!
THE ELECTRICAL ENERGY OF THE ELEMENT THAT PROPELS IT FILTERS THROUGH AND HAS KNOCKED OUT EVERY ELECTRICAL OBJECT FOR MILES AROUND! IN FACT, I'D HAVE ARRIVED HERE SOONER IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO REPAIR SHORT-CIRCUITED GENERATORS AND POWER STATIONS ALONG THE WAY!
GOSH, I'M SORRY, SUPERBOY!
THAT'S BETTER! NOW WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, SUN BOY?
USE YOUR SUPER-POWERS TO HELP ME CARRY OUT AN IMPORTANT MISSION! YOU SEE, EACH YEAR, THE LEGION OF SUPER HEROES ADMITS ONLY ONE NEW MEMBER... THE APPLICANT WHO PERFORMS THE MOST SPECTACULAR SUPER-FEAT!
"WELL, THIS YEAR I WAS SELECTED IN A COMPETITION HELD OUTSIDE OUR CLUB HOUSE..."
GASP!... WHAT RADIANCE! HE'S LIKE A HUMAN SUN!
YES! I ACQUIRED THE POWER WHEN AN ACCIDENT IN MY FATHER'S LAB, WHERE HE WAS CONDUCTING SOLAR EXPERIMENTS, BOMBARDED ME WITH SOLAR RAYS! I SOON DISCOVERED THAT I HAD ABSORBED SO MUCH SOLAR ENERGY THAT, AT WILL, I COULD SHINE LIKE THE SUN ITSELF!

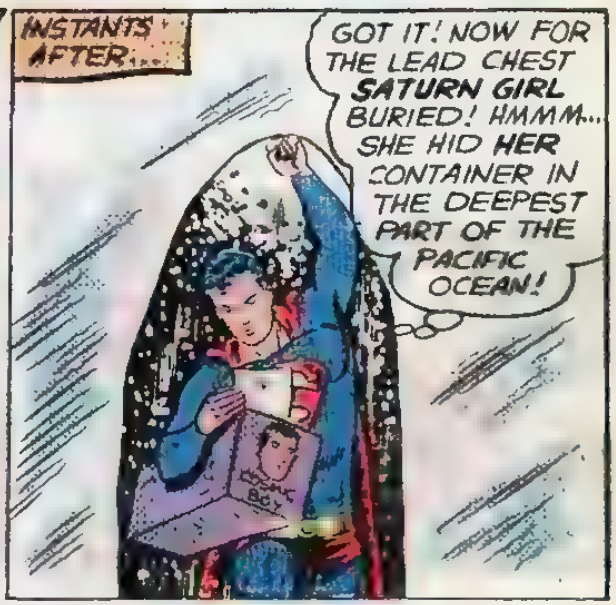

"LAST WEEK, AFTER BEING INITIATED INTO THE LEGION, I WAS GIVEN AN ASSIGNMENT..."
TAKE A TIME MACHINE AND JOURNEY INTO THE PAST, SUN BOY. HAVE SUPERBOY HELP YOU LOCATE THE TERRIBLE WEAPON SKETCHED ON THIS DIAGRAM!
YES, LIGHTNING LAD!
SUNBOY
A BRILLIANT CRIMINAL SCIENTIST INVENTED THIS WEAPON, INTENDING TO USE IT AGAINST HUMANITY! BUT HE DIED SHORTLY AFTER OUR LEGION DISCOVERED THE WEAPON'S EXISTENCE! SO SIX OF US DISMANTLED IT AND ISOLATED EACH PART IN A SEPARATE, LEAD-COVERED CHEST!
"SIX LEGIONNAIRES...COSMIC BOY, SATURN GIRL, LIGHTNING LAD, BRAINIAC 5, CHAMELEON BOY AND PHANTOM GIRL... LOADED THE SIX LEAD CONTAINERS ABOARD A TIME MACHINE AND TOOK THEM TO YOUR TIME, SUPERBOY!"
WE'LL BURY EACH CHEST HERE IN THE PAST SO NO CRIMINAL FROM THE 30TH CENTURY CAN EVER LAY HIS HANDS ON IT! AFTER WE HIDE THE CONTAINERS IN DIFFERENT SPOTS ALL OVER THE WORLD, WE'LL RENDEZVOUS HERE AND RETURN TO THE FUTURE!
HOWEVER, RECENTLY, IT OCCURRED TO THE LEGION THAT SOME CRIMINAL IN THE 20TH CENTURY MIGHT LOCATE THE SIX SECTIONS AND ASSEMBLE THE WEAPON! HENCE MY MISSION TO TRANSPORT THE SIX CONTAINERS TO THE FUTURE WHERE WE HAVE BUILT A SECRET VAULT TO HOUSE ALL FORBIDDEN WEAPONS!
HERE'S THE DIAGRAM LIGHTNING LAD GAVE ME! AS YOU SEE, THERE ARE SIX PARTS TO THE FEARSOME INVENTION! I ALSO HAVE A LIST OF THE SIX PLACES WHERE THE LEAD CONTAINERS ARE BURIED!
OKAY, SUN BOY! I'LL COLLECT THEM FOR YOU AND BRING THEM BACK ONE BY ONE!
7

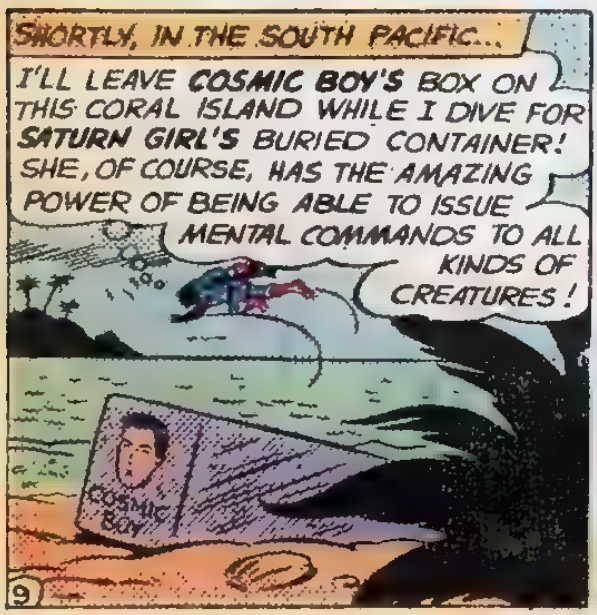
NEXT MOMENT...
THE FOOL! HE SWALLOWED MY STORY! LITTLE DOES HE KNOW WHOM HE'S REALLY HELPING... OR WHAT USE I INTEND TO MAKE OF THE WEAPON AFTER I ASSEMBLE IT!
BEFORE I GATHER UP THE DIFFERENT PARTS, I'D BETTER ZIP HOME TO SMALLVILLE AND TELL MOM WHAT I'M UP TO SO SHE WON'T WORRY!
BUT AS THE BOY OF STEEL NEARS THE KENT HOUSE...
COME ON, CLARK! I'LL WALK YOU TO SCHOOL
ER... OKAY... SO LONG, MOM!
GREAT GALAXIES! SOMEBODY'S PRETENDING TO BE CLARK KENT AND HE'S GOT MOM AND LANA LANG FOOLED!
I SHOULD EXPOSE HIM NOW BUT MAYBE I CAN MAKE USE OF HIS IMPERSONATION! WITH MY ROBOTS UNABLE TO PERFORM, I'LL LET HIM ACT OUT THE PART OF CLARK KENT IN SCHOOL, WHILE I GATHER THE PARTS OF THAT WEAPON!
THERE'S NO DANGER OF MY FOLKS BLURTING OUT THE SECRET OF MY SUPERBOY IDENTITY TO HIM, EITHER! I'LL BE HOME LONG BEFORE THE IMPOSTOR RETURNS FROM SCHOOL! SO, WHOEVER HE IS, HE'S DOING ME A FAVOR BY MASQUERADING AS CLARK KENT!
PRESENTLY, AT SCHOOL...
HEY! LOOK! WE WERE KIDDING CLARK, CHALLENGING HIM TO JUMP OVER THAT WALL... AND HE DID! HE'S A BETTER ATHLETE THAN HE'S BEEN PRETENDING!
HMM... CLARK IS ACTING PECULIARLY TODAY! I'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED HE WAS SUPERBOY! MAYBE I CAN PROVE IT THIS MORNING!
PSSST... EDDIE! I WANT TO PLAY A TRICK ON CLARK KENT! TAKE THIS SCISSORS I USE IN SEWING CLASS AND CUT OFF A LOCK OF HIS HAIR!
SURE, LANA! EVEN IF CLARK GETS SORE AT THE PRACTICAL JOKE, HE WON'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT! HE'S TOO TIMID!

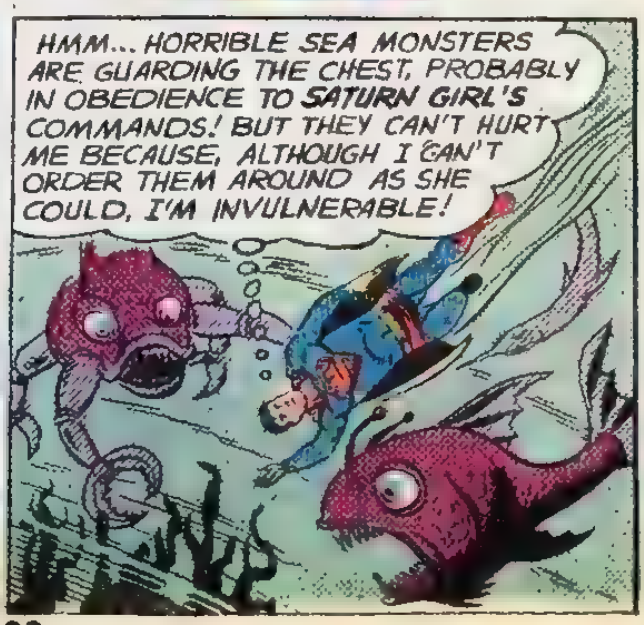
SUPERBOY'S HAIR IS INDESTRUCTIBLE! IF THE SCISSORS BREAK, WE'LL KNOW THAT CLARK KENT IS SUPERBOY'S SECRET IDENTITY!
HEY! W-WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, CUTTING MY HAIR?
SNIP!

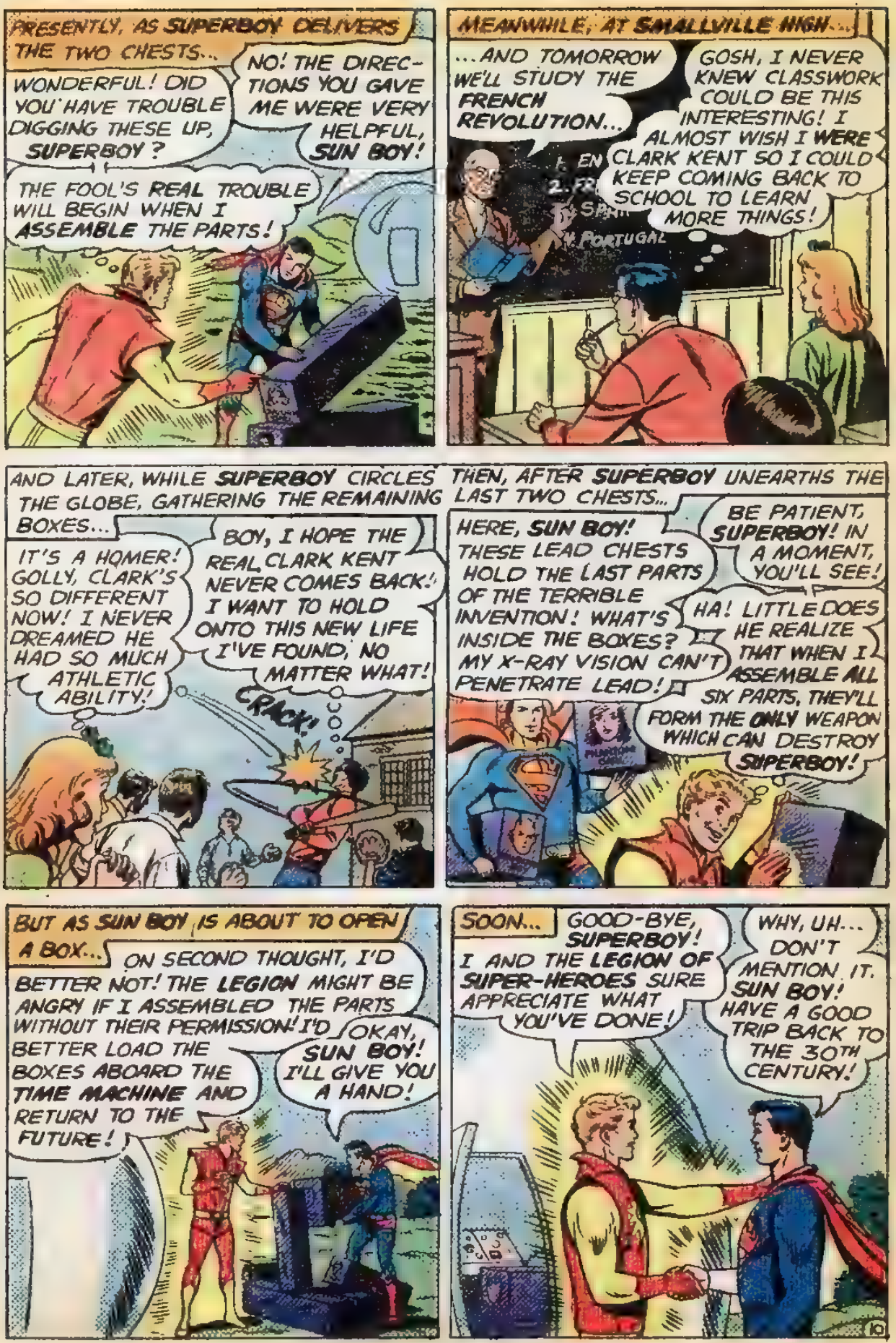

ARE YOU A WISE GUY OR SOMETHING?
GOSH, WHAT A PUNCH! CLARK IS DIFFERENT THIS MORNING! HE'S NOT SUPERBOY... FOR SURE, BECAUSE HIS HAIR COULD BE CUT! BUT HE'S NO LONGER MEEK AND MILD!
POW!


MEANWHILE, AS TOM TANNER INDIRECTLY DOES SUPERBOY A GOOD TURN BY PROTECTING HIS SECRET IDENTITY...
I'VE SPOTTED THE LEAD BOX WHICH COSMIC BOY BURIED UNDER THE POLAR ICE-CAP! SINCE COSMIC BOY HAS MAGNETIC POWERS, IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR HIM TO HAVE HIDDEN HIS CONTAINER NEAR THE MAGNETIC POLE!

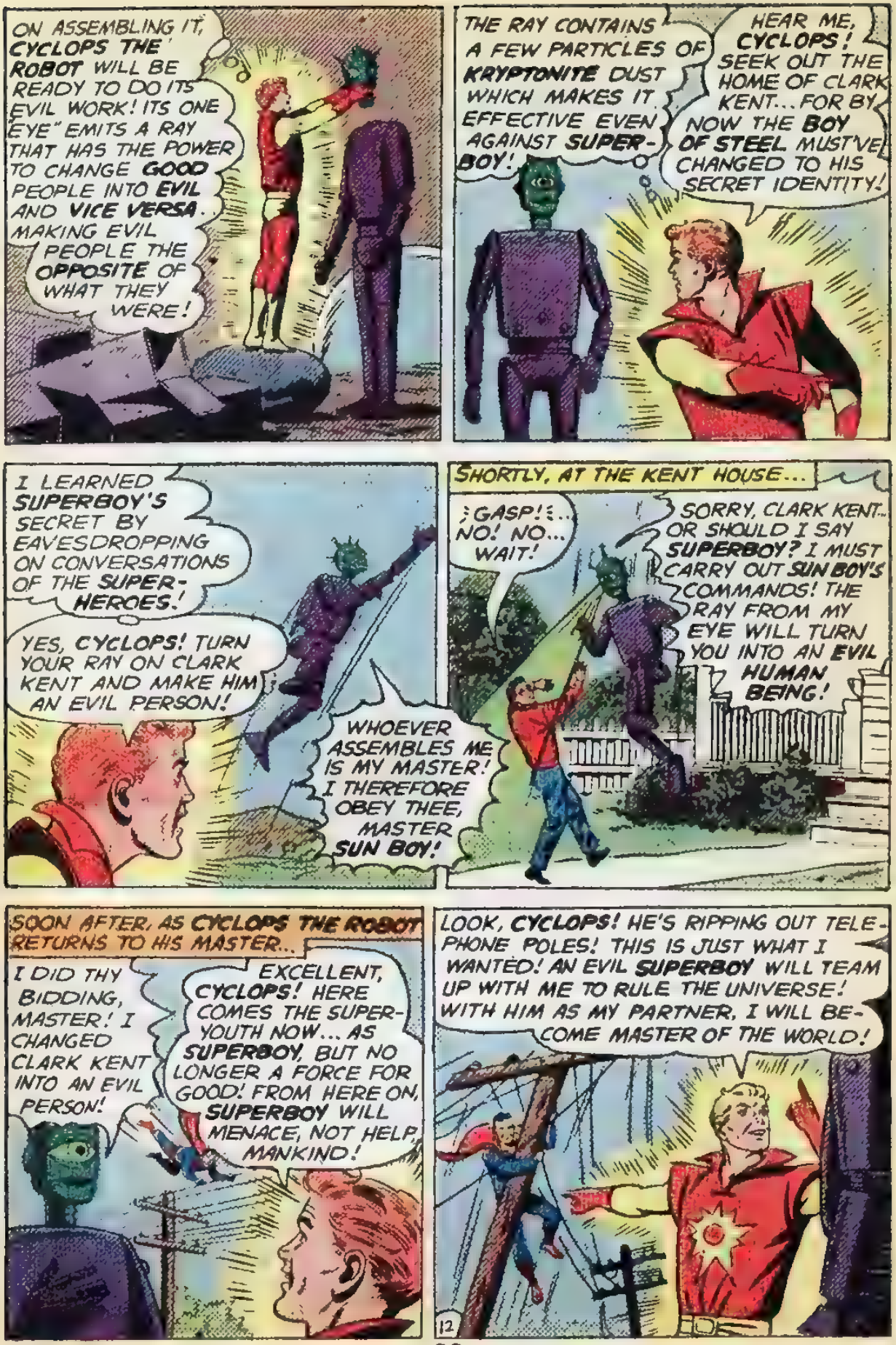

INSTANTS AFTER...
GOT IT! NOW FOR THE LEAD CHEST SATURN GIRL BURIED! HMMM... SHE HID HER CONTAINER IN THE DEEPEST PART OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN!

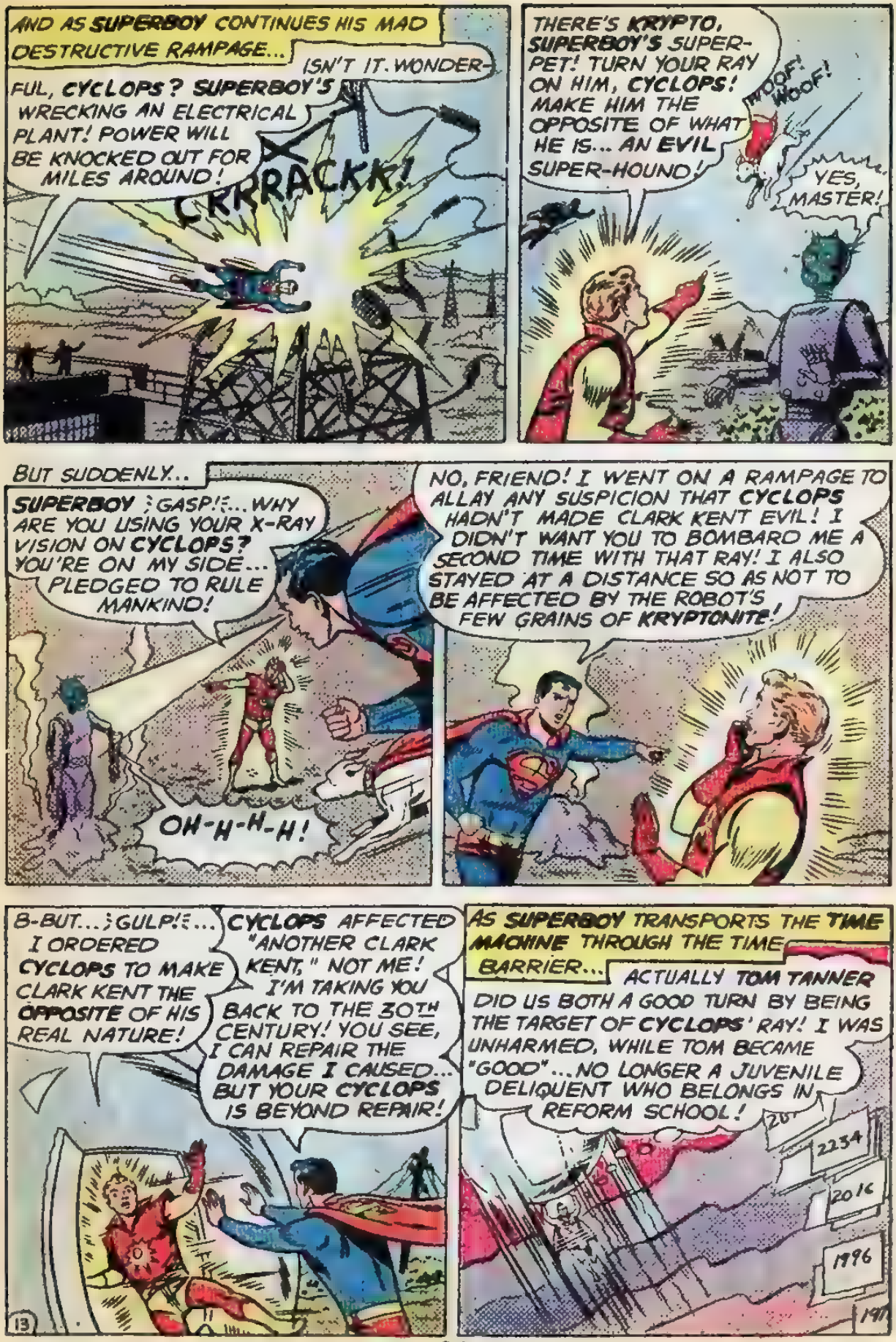

SHORTLY, IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC...
I'LL LEAVE COSMIC BOY'S BOX ON THIS CORAL ISLAND WHILE I DIVE FOR SATURN GIRL'S BURIED CONTAINER! SHE, OF COURSE, HAS THE AMAZING POWER OF BEING ABLE TO ISSUE MENTAL COMMANDS TO ALL KINDS OF CREATURES!
COSMIC BOY
9


HMM... HORRIBLE SEA MONSTERS ARE GUARDING THE CHEST, PROBABLY IN OBEDIENCE TO SATURN GIRL'S COMMANDS! BUT THEY CAN'T HURT ME BECAUSE, ALTHOUGH I CAN'T ORDER THEM AROUND AS SHE COULD, I'M INVULNERABLE!


PRESENTLY, AS SUPERBOY DELIVERS THE TWO CHESTS...
NO! THE DIRECTIONS YOU GAVE ME WERE VERY HELPFUL, SUN BOY!
WONDERFUL! DID YOU HAVE TROUBLE DIGGING THESE UP, SUPERBOY?
THE FOOL'S REAL TROUBLE WILL BEGIN WHEN I ASSEMBLE THE PARTS!
MEANWHILE, AT SMALLVILLE HIGH...
...AND TOMORROW WE'LL STUDY THE FRENCH REVOLUTION...
GOSH, I NEVER KNEW CLASSWORK COULD BE THIS INTERESTING! I ALMOST WISH I WERE CLARK KENT SO I COULD KEEP COMING BACK TO SCHOOL TO LEARN MORE THINGS!
1. EN
2. FR
PORTUGAL
AND LATER, WHILE SUPERBOY CIRCLES THE GLOBE, GATHERING THE REMAINING BOXES...
BOY, I HOPE THE REAL CLARK KENT NEVER COMES BACK! I WANT TO HOLD ONTO THIS NEW LIFE I'VE FOUND, NO MATTER WHAT!
IT'S A HOMER! GOLLY, CLARK'S SO DIFFERENT NOW! I NEVER DREAMED HE HAD SO MUCH ATHLETIC ABILITY!
CRACK!
THEN, AFTER SUPERBOY UNEARTHS THE LAST TWO CHESTS...
HERE, SUN BOY! THESE LEAD CHESTS HOLD THE LAST PARTS OF THE TERRIBLE INVENTION! WHAT'S INSIDE THE BOXES? MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE LEAD!
BE PATIENT, SUPERBOY! IN A MOMENT, YOU'LL SEE!
HA! LITTLE DOES HE REALIZE THAT WHEN I ASSEMBLE ALL SIX PARTS, THEY'LL FORM THE ONLY WEAPON WHICH CAN DESTROY SUPERBOY!
PHANTOM ZONE
BUT AS SUN BOY IS ABOUT TO OPEN A BOX...
ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'D BETTER NOT! THE LEGION MIGHT BE ANGRY IF I ASSEMBLED THE PARTS WITHOUT THEIR PERMISSION! I'D BETTER LOAD THE BOXES ABOARD THE TIME MACHINE AND RETURN TO THE FUTURE!
OKAY, SUN BOY! I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND!
SOON...
GOOD-BYE, SUPERBOY! I AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES SURE APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'VE DONE!
WHY, UH... DON'T MENTION IT, SUN BOY! HAVE A GOOD TRIP BACK TO THE 30TH CENTURY!

INSTANTS AFTER, AS THE TIME MACHINE STREAKS AWAY...
AS SOON AS SUPERBOY IS GONE, I'LL REVERSE ENGINES AND RETURN TO THE PRESENT! I DON'T WANT HIM AROUND WHEN I ASSEMBLE THE WEAPON!
I'LL SCOOT HOME NOW AND SWITCH TO CLARK KENT! I WANT TO CONFRONT MY IMPERSONATOR WHEN HE COMES BACK FROM SCHOOL!
BUT LITTLE DOES SUPERBOY REALIZE THAT, BECAUSE OF A TEACHERS' CONVENTION, SCHOOL HAS CLOSED AN HOUR EARLIER AND THAT THE PHONY CLARK KENT IS ALREADY HOME...
GOOD GRACIOUS, CLARK! THE FAT IN THE FRYING PAN HAS CAUGHT FIRE! BLOW OUT THE FLAMES WITH YOUR SUPER-BREATH!
M-MY WHAT... GASP!...?
THIS IS NO TIME FOR JOKING, CLARK! AS SUPERBOY, YOU CAN USE ONE OF YOUR MANY SUPER-POWERS TO PUT OUT THAT FIRE!
GOOD GOSH! I DIDN'T EXPECT THIS CHARACTER BACK TILL AFTER THREE O'CLOCK! NOW THE CAT'S OUT OF THE BAG! MA HAS UNWITTINGLY REVEALED MY SECRET IDENTITY!
AS THE REAL CLARK KENT USES HIS SUPER-BREATH...
THANKS, SON! SOMETIMES YOUR SUPER-POWERS AMAZE ME!
JUST A MINUTE, MRS. KENT! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! THAT FIRE MUST'VE GONE OUT BY ITSELF! YOU SEE, I'M NOT CLARK KENT, ALIAS SUPERBOY! I'M TOM TANNER, WHO BUSTED OUT FROM REFORM SCHOOL THIS MORNING!
BECAUSE I LOOK LIKE YOUR CLARK, YOU MISTOOK ME FOR HIM AND LET ME IN YOUR HOUSE! WELL, I LIKE BEING CLARK KENT...AND I WON'T GIVE UP MY NEW LIFE! EXPOSE ME AND I'LL REVEAL CLARK KENT'S SECRET IDENTITY!
GOSH! THIS TANNER KID HAS US OVER A BARREL!
AT THE SAME TIME, OUTSIDE SMALLVILLE...
HOW SURPRISED SUPERBOY WILL BE, NOT ONLY TO LEARN I'VE RETURNED...BUT TO DISCOVER THAT THESE BOXES CONTAIN THE SIX DISMANTLED SECTIONS OF A ROBOT'S BODY!


ON ASSEMBLING IT, CYCLOPS THE ROBOT WILL BE READY TO DO ITS EVIL WORK! ITS ONE EYE" EMITS A RAY THAT HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE GOOD PEOPLE INTO EVIL AND VICE VERSA. MAKING EVIL PEOPLE THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT THEY WERE!
THE RAY CONTAINS A FEW PARTICLES OF KRYPTONITE DUST WHICH MAKES IT EFFECTIVE EVEN AGAINST SUPER-BOY!
HEAR ME, CYCLOPS! SEEK OUT THE HOME OF CLARK KENT... FOR BY NOW THE BOY OF STEEL MUST'VE CHANGED TO HIS SECRET IDENTITY!
I LEARNED SUPERBOY'S SECRET BY EAVESDROPPING ON CONVERSATIONS OF THE SUPER-HEROES.!
YES, CYCLOPS! TURN YOUR RAY ON CLARK KENT AND MAKE HIM AN EVIL PERSON!
WHOEVER ASSEMBLES ME IS MY MASTER! I THEREFORE OBEY THEE, MASTER SUN BOY!
SHORTLY, AT THE KENT HOUSE...
;GASP!;.. NO! NO... WAIT!
SORRY, CLARK KENT.. OR SHOULD I SAY SUPERBOY? I MUST CARRY OUT SUN BOY'S COMMANDS! THE RAY FROM MY EYE WILL TURN YOU INTO AN EVIL HUMAN BEING!
SOON AFTER, AS CYCLOPS THE ROBOT RETURNS TO HIS MASTER...
I DID THY BIDDING, MASTER! I CHANGED CLARK KENT INTO AN EVIL PERSON!
EXCELLENT, CYCLOPS! HERE COMES THE SUPER-YOUTH NOW... AS SUPERBOY, BUT NO LONGER A FORCE FOR GOOD! FROM HERE ON, SUPERBOY WILL MENACE, NOT HELP MANKIND!
LOOK, CYCLOPS! HE'S RIPPING OUT TELE-PHONE POLES! THIS IS JUST WHAT I WANTED! AN EVIL SUPERBOY WILL TEAM UP WITH ME TO RULE THE UNIVERSE! WITH HIM AS MY PARTNER, I WILL BE-COME MASTER OF THE WORLD!
12


AND AS SUPERBOY CONTINUES HIS MAD DESTRUCTIVE RAMPAGE...
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL, CYCLOPS? SUPERBOY'S WRECKING AN ELECTRICAL PLANT! POWER WILL BE KNOCKED OUT FOR MILES AROUND!
CRRRACKK!
THERE'S KRYPTO, SUPERBOY'S SUPER-PET! TURN YOUR RAY ON HIM, CYCLOPS! MAKE HIM THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT HE IS... AN EVIL SUPER-HOUND!
WOOF! WOOF!
YES, MASTER!
BUT SUDDENLY...
SUPERBOY! GASP!... WHY ARE YOU USING YOUR X-RAY VISION ON CYCLOPS? YOU'RE ON MY SIDE... PLEDGED TO RULE MANKIND!
OH-H-H-H!
NO, FRIEND! I WENT ON A RAMPAGE TO ALLAY ANY SUSPICION THAT CYCLOPS HADN'T MADE CLARK KENT EVIL! I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO BOMBARD ME A SECOND TIME WITH THAT RAY! I ALSO STAYED AT A DISTANCE SO AS NOT TO BE AFFECTED BY THE ROBOT'S FEW GRAINS OF KRYPTONITE!
B-BUT...! GULP!... I ORDERED CYCLOPS TO MAKE CLARK KENT THE OPPOSITE OF HIS REAL NATURE!
CYCLOPS AFFECTED "ANOTHER CLARK KENT," NOT ME! I'M TAKING YOU BACK TO THE 30TH CENTURY! YOU SEE, I CAN REPAIR THE DAMAGE I CAUSED... BUT YOUR CYCLOPS IS BEYOND REPAIR!
13
AS SUPERBOY TRANSPORTS THE TIME MACHINE THROUGH THE TIME BARRIER... ACTUALLY TOM TANNER DID US BOTH A GOOD TURN BY BEING THE TARGET OF CYCLOPS' RAY! I WAS UNHARMED, WHILE TOM BECAME "GOOD"... NO LONGER A JUVENILE DELIQUENT WHO BELONGS IN REFORM SCHOOL!
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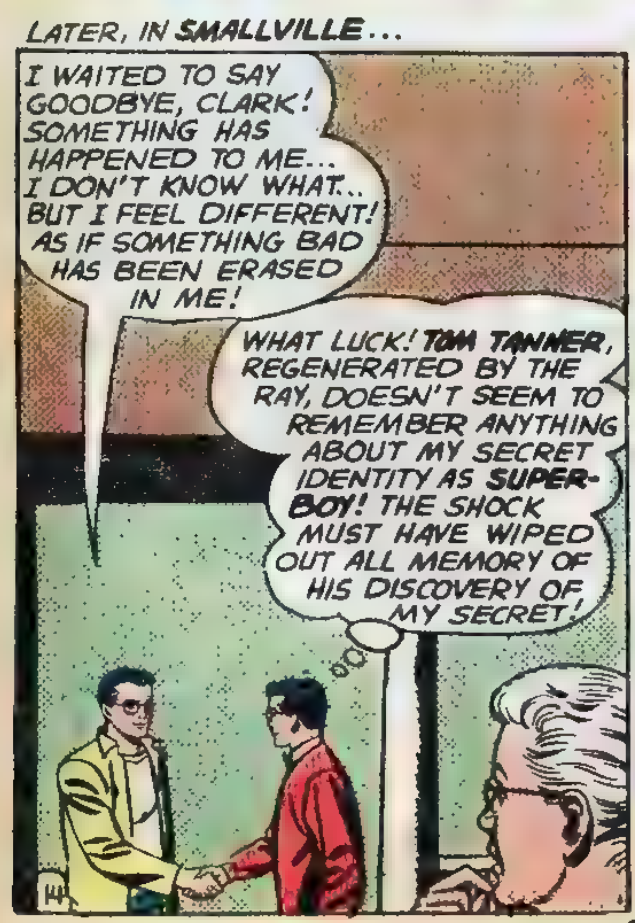
NEXT, ON THE PLANET XANTHU...
AS YOU SEE, FELLOW LEGIONAIRES AND ESPECIALLY SUN BOY, THIS CRIMINAL IMPOSTOR WORE A LIFE-LIKE MASK AND A DEVICE TO SIMULATE SOLAR ENERGY! THROUGH SPYING, HE LEARNED ABOUT THE TERRIBLE WEAPON YOU HEROES HAD DISMANTLED AND BURIED IN THE PAST!
OKAY, I CONFESS, SUPERBOY! I STOLE THEIR TIME MACHINE TO REACH YOUR ERA! BUT HOW DID YOU CATCH WISE TO ME?
SUNBOY
COSMIC BOY

MEMBERS OF THE LEGION, LIKE MANY FRATERNITIES AND CLUBS, HAVE A SECRET HANDSHAKE! WHEN YOU SHOOK HANDS WITH ME IN THE NORMAL WAY ON SAYING GOOD-BYE, I KNEW YOU WERE A PHONY!
AFTER THAT I USED MY SUPER-POWERS TO WATCH YOU ASSEMBLE CYCLOPS! BUT YOUR ROBOT GOOFED! HE AIMED HIS RAY ON A JUVENILE DELINQUENT WHO RESEMBLED ME! AS A RESULT, HE DID NOT BECOME EVIL... BUT GOOD!


LATER, IN SMALLVILLE...
I WAITED TO SAY GOODBYE, CLARK! SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO ME... I DON'T KNOW WHAT... BUT I FEEL DIFFERENT! AS IF SOMETHING BAD HAS BEEN ERASED IN ME!
WHAT LUCK! TOM TANNER, REGENERATED BY THE RAY, DOESN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT MY SECRET IDENTITY AS SUPER-BOY! THE SHOCK MUST HAVE WIPED OUT ALL MEMORY OF HIS DISCOVERY OF MY SECRET!

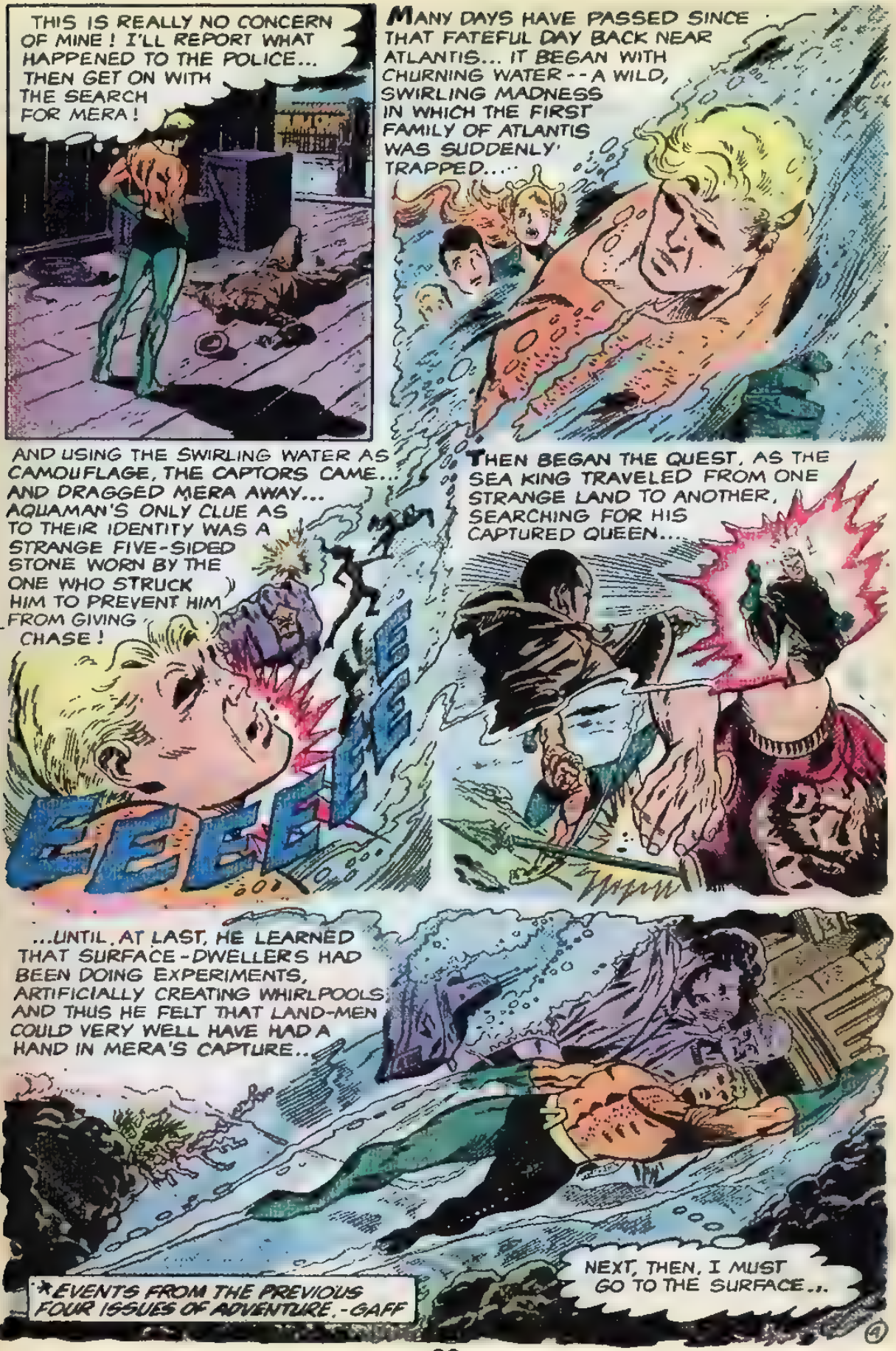
I'M GOING BACK TO REFORM SCHOOL TO SERVE OUT MY SENTENCE! AND I'LL BE A MODEL INMATE, SO PERHAPS SOMEONE WILL ADOPT ME AND GIVE ME A SWELL HOME LIKE YOURS!
B-BUT...
SHHH, MA! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! TOM RECALLS NOTHING! OUR SECRET IS SAFE NOW!
The End

NIGHT ON THE WATERFRONT...
MAX... PLEASE! WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?! YOU CAN'T--UNHH!!
SHUT-UP, YOU LOUSY STOOLIE!! WE'RE WISE TO YOU!
PUNK! YOU BEEN SNOOPING AROUND, HUH? YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THE BIG OPERATION! AND YOU WERE GONNA SPILL TO THE COPS!!
THE COPS?! NO, MAX, NO! YOU GOT ME ALL WRONG! I--
YOU AIN'T GONNA LIE YOUR WAY OUTTA THIS!
YEH! THAT'S IT! STAY RIGHT THERE! THIS'LL ONLY TAKE A SECOND!
MAX... YOU GOTTA LISTEN TO ME! MY--
NOBODY'S GONNA LISTEN TO YOU EVER AGAIN!!
THIS IS IT, STOOLIE! THIS IS YOUR FINISH!!

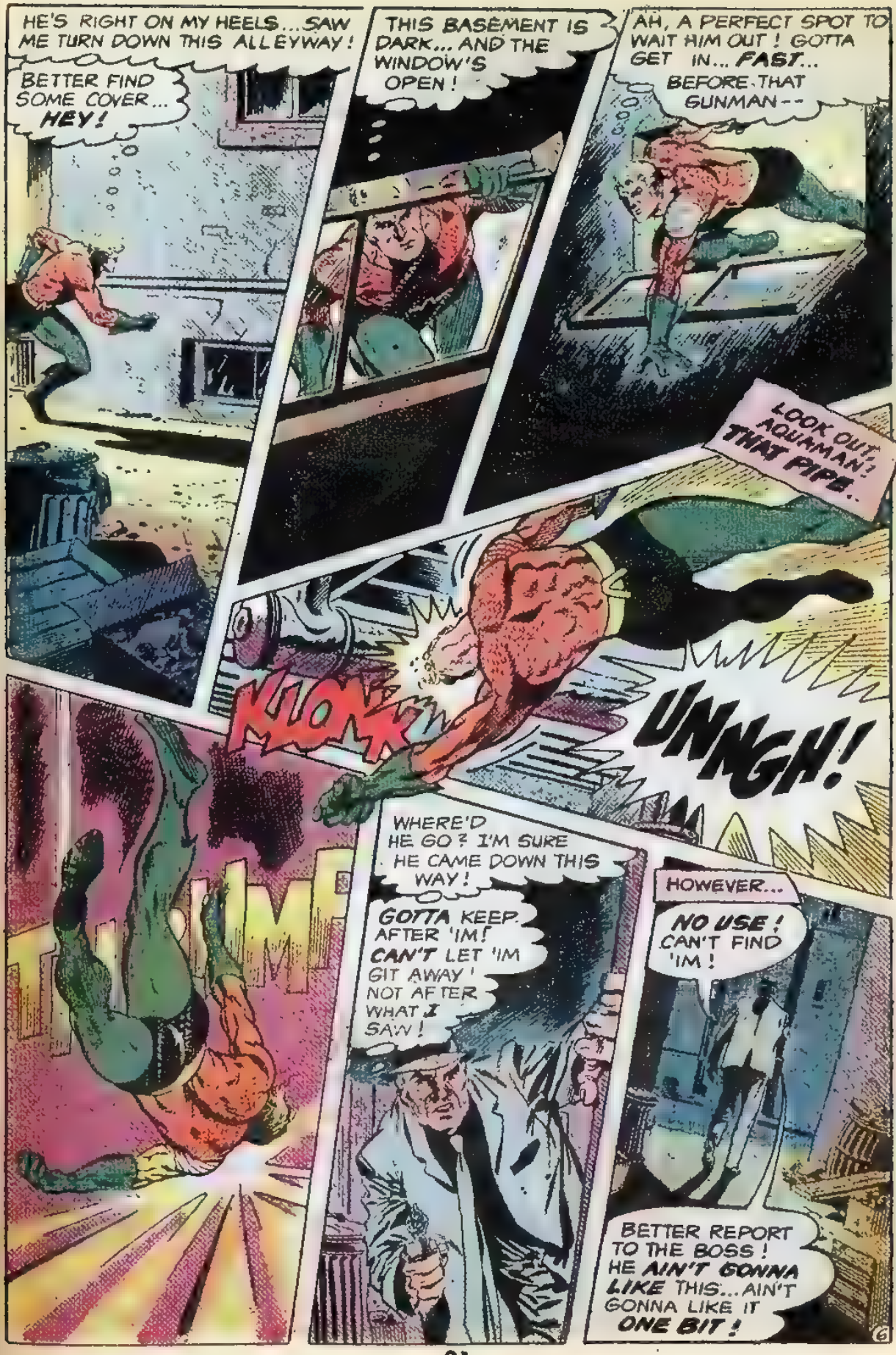
MEANWHILE, CONTINUING THE SEARCH FOR HIS CAPTURED QUEEN... AQUAMAN, KING OF ATLANTIS, SWIMS TOWARD LAND...
EVERYTHING SEEMS TO POINT TO SURFACE DWELLERS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR MERA'S ABDUCTION!
BUT WHERE DO I START LOOKING ?! DO I --
HUH ! A GUNSHOT !!
A KILLING !! GANG-LAND STYLE !
THE KILLER DIDN'T SEE ME -- OR HE'D PROBABLY HAVE TAKEN A FEW POT-SHOTS AT ME !
NO CHANCE OF CATCHING UP TO HIM NOW ! AND THIS FELLA MUST BE DEAD !
NO! WAIT ! HE'S STILL BREATHING -- STILL ALIVE !
GROAN...

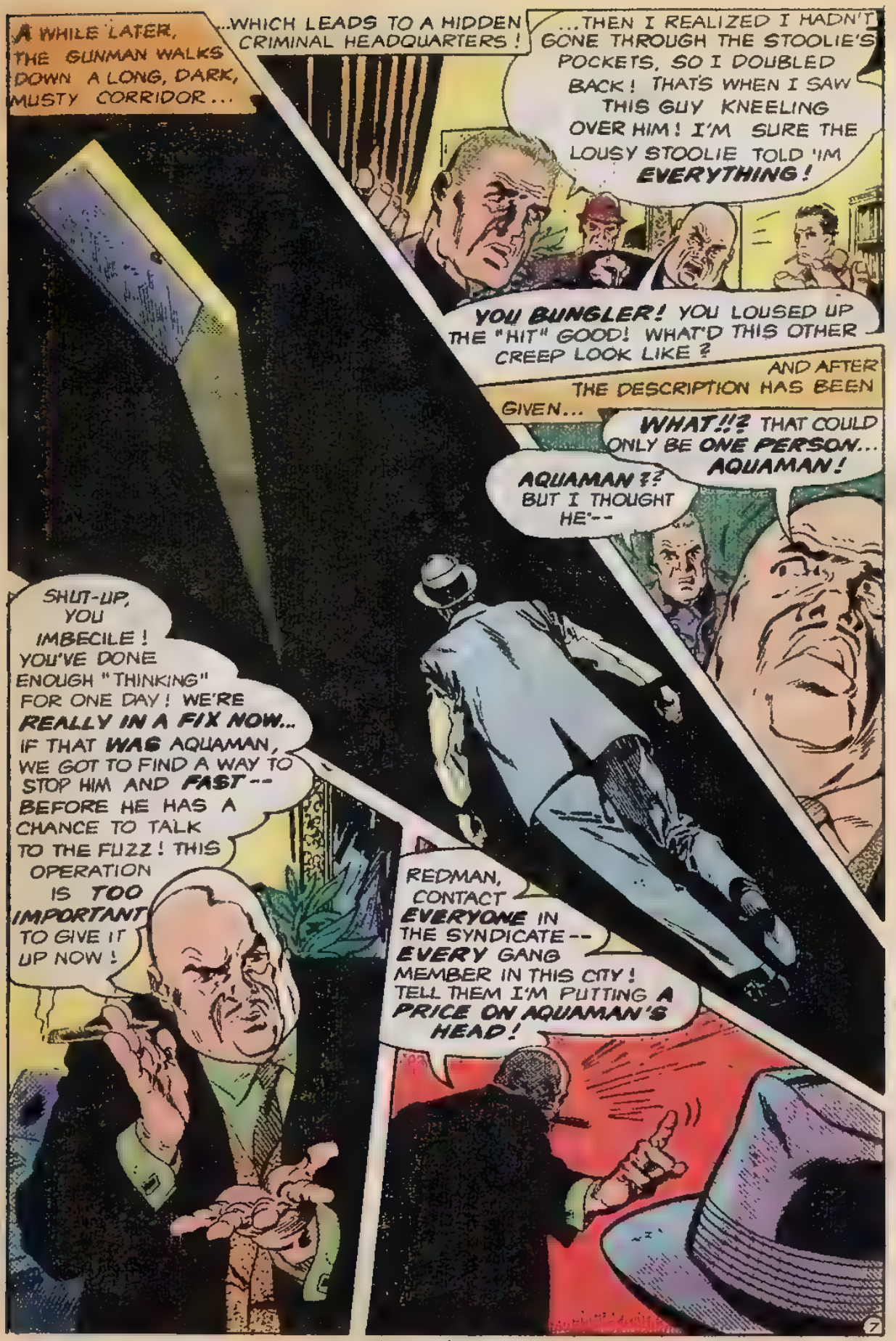
AQUAMAN
SCRIPT= SKEATES • ART= APARO • EDITOR= GIORDANO
COLOR BOB LEROSE
HE'S MUMBLING... TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING! BUT I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT!
HE'S HAD IT! IT'S ALL OVER FOR HIM!
YES, IT'S OVER FOR HIM!.. BUT FOR THE SEA KING, THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING! FATE HAS ALREADY ASSIGNED AQUAMAN A ROLE IN THIS DRAMA--THE ROLE OF THE HUNTED AS WELL AS THE HUNTER!..
3

# "UNDERWORLD REWARD!"


THIS IS REALLY NO CONCERN OF MINE! I'LL REPORT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE POLICE... THEN GET ON WITH THE SEARCH FOR MERA!
MANY DAYS HAVE PASSED SINCE THAT FATEFUL DAY BACK NEAR ATLANTIS... IT BEGAN WITH CHURNING WATER--A WILD, SWIRLING MADNESS IN WHICH THE FIRST FAMILY OF ATLANTIS WAS SUDDENLY TRAPPED....
AND USING THE SWIRLING WATER AS CAMOUFLAGE, THE CAPTORS CAME... AND DRAGGED MERA AWAY... AQUAMAN'S ONLY CLUE AS TO THEIR IDENTITY WAS A STRANGE FIVE-SIDED STONE WORN BY THE ONE WHO STRUCK HIM TO PREVENT HIM FROM GIVING CHASE!
FEEL
THEN BEGAN THE QUEST, AS THE SEA KING TRAVELED FROM ONE STRANGE LAND TO ANOTHER, SEARCHING FOR HIS CAPTURED QUEEN...
...UNTIL, AT LAST, HE LEARNED THAT SURFACE-DWELLERS HAD BEEN DOING EXPERIMENTS, ARTIFICIALLY CREATING WHIRLPOOLS AND THUS HE FELT THAT LAND-MEN COULD VERY WELL HAVE HAD A HAND IN MERA'S CAPTURE..
*EVENTS FROM THE PREVIOUS FOUR ISSUES OF ADVENTURE.-GAFF
NEXT, THEN, I MUST GO TO THE SURFACE...
4

BUT NOW, AS THE SEA KING TURNS AWAY FROM THE SLAIN "STOOLIE"...
KA-WAK
ZINNG
A SHOT!.. MEANT FOR ME!! GOTTA HUNT COVER... FAST!
THERE HE IS! COULD BE THE ONE WHO SHOT THAT OTHER GUY!-
BUT, WHOEVER HE IS, I'M GOING TO TAKE HIM!
I'LL CUT DOWN THIS ALLEY... MAYBE I CAN COME UP BEHIND HIM!
HE'LL BE EXPECTING ME TO DO SOMETHING! IF I MOVE FAST ENOUGH -- I CAN STILL TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!
BUT..
UH-OH! HE'S GONE! -- CHANGED HIS POSITION! MAYBE HE HEARD ME COMING, AND--
KOAK
OOP! THAT ANSWERS THAT! SOMEHOW HE GOT BEHIND ME!
NOW HE'S GOT ME RIGHT WHERE HE WANTS ME!


HE'S RIGHT ON MY HEELS...SAW ME TURN DOWN THIS ALLEYWAY!
BETTER FIND SOME COVER... HEY!
THIS BASEMENT IS DARK... AND THE WINDOW'S OPEN!
AH, A PERFECT SPOT TO WAIT HIM OUT! GOTTA GET IN... FAST... BEFORE THAT GUNMAN--
LOOK OUT, AQUAMAN! THAT PIPE..
KLONK
UNNGH!
WHERE'D HE GO? I'M SURE HE CAME DOWN THIS WAY!
GOTTA KEEP AFTER 'IM! CAN'T LET 'IM GIT AWAY! NOT AFTER WHAT I SAW!
HOWEVER...
NO USE! CAN'T FIND 'IM!
BETTER REPORT TO THE BOSS! HE AIN'T GONNA LIKE THIS... AIN'T GONNA LIKE IT ONE BIT!
6


A WHILE LATER, THE GUNMAN WALKS DOWN A LONG, DARK, MUSTY CORRIDOR...
...WHICH LEADS TO A HIDDEN CRIMINAL HEADQUARTERS!
...THEN I REALIZED I HADN'T GONE THROUGH THE STOOLIE'S POCKETS, SO I DOUBLED BACK! THAT'S WHEN I SAW THIS GUY KNEELING OVER HIM! I'M SURE THE LOUSY STOOLIE TOLD 'IM EVERYTHING!
YOU BUNGLER! YOU LOUSED UP THE "HIT" GOOD! WHAT'D THIS OTHER CREEP LOOK LIKE?
AND AFTER THE DESCRIPTION HAS BEEN GIVEN...
WHAT!!? THAT COULD ONLY BE ONE PERSON... AQUAMAN!
AQUAMAN!? BUT I THOUGHT HE'--
SHUT-UP, YOU IMBECILE! YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH "THINKING" FOR ONE DAY! WE'RE REALLY IN A FIX NOW.. IF THAT WAS AQUAMAN, WE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO STOP HIM AND FAST -- BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO TALK TO THE FUZZ! THIS OPERATION IS TOO IMPORTANT TO GIVE IT UP NOW!
REDMAN, CONTACT EVERYONE IN THE SYNDICATE -- EVERY GANG MEMBER IN THIS CITY! TELL THEM I'M PUTTING A PRICE ON AQUAMAN'S HEAD!
7

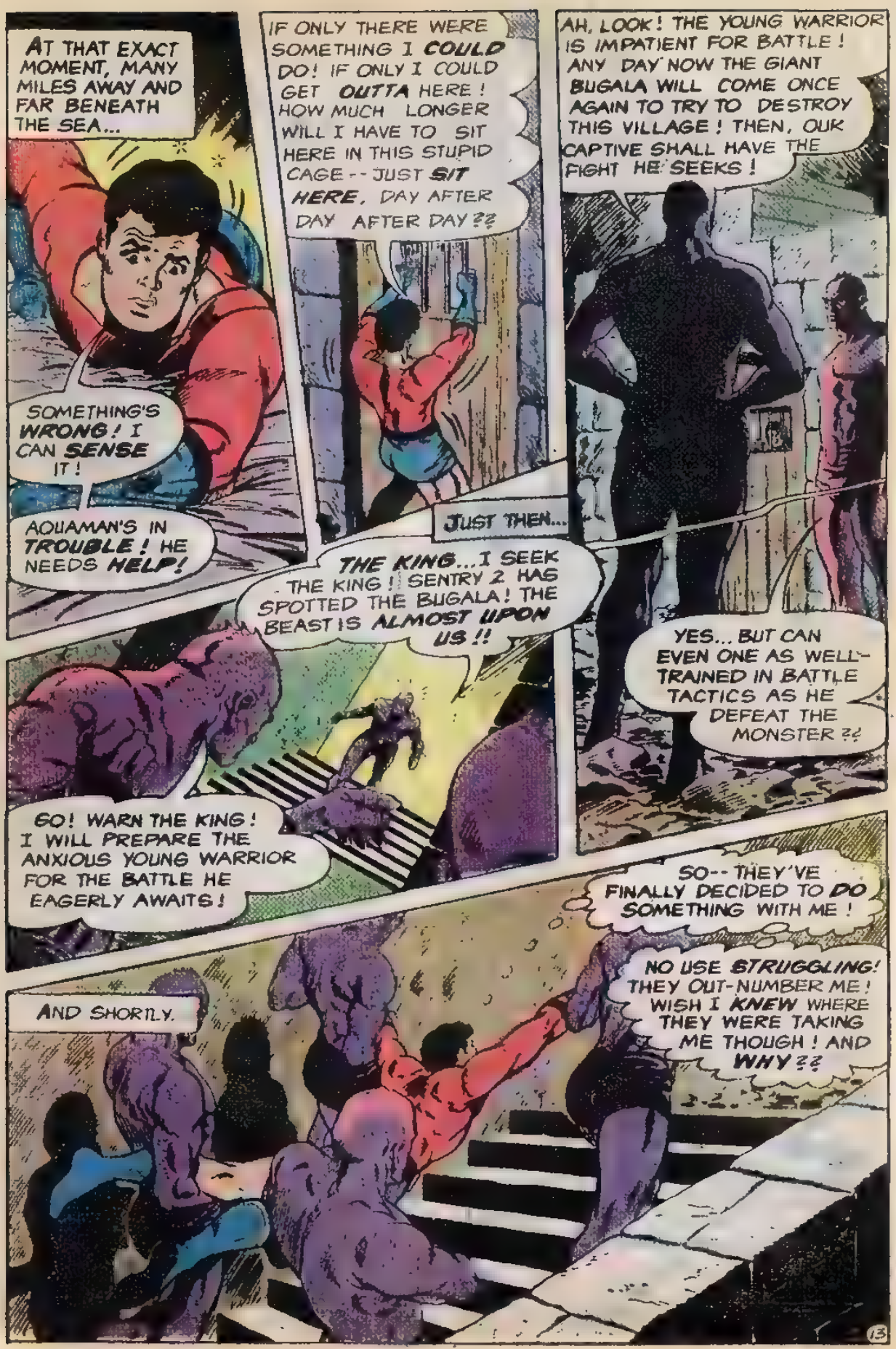
MEANWHILE, IN A BASEMENT ROOM, THE SEA KING LIES UNCONSCIOUS. BEHIND HIM, A DOOR SLOWLY OPENS...
KREAK
OOOO...WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE...
THEN...
FOOTSTEPS... SOMEONE HEADING TOWARD ME !!
8

HUH ?!.. IT'S A GIRL !! WHO ARE YOU ?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ?
I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME QUESTION ! AFTER ALL, YOU ARE IN THE BASEMENT OF MY PAD !
AN' YOU'RE DRESSED RATHER ODDLY... EVEN FOR THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ! WHAT'RE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE ANYWAY ?
OH, YES ! NOW I... I REMEMBER ! I CAME IN... IN THE WINDOW... TRYING TO -- I'M AQUAMAN... KING OF ATLANTIS !
SURE YOU ARE ! AN' I'M THE QUEEN OF SHEBA... ANYHOW, YOU LOOK HARMLESS ENOUGH ! SAY... YOU SEEM TO BE PRETTY WEAK ! YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN !
SHE'S RIGHT ! I AM GETTING WEAK !.. BECAUSE I'VE BEEN OUT OF THE WATER TOO LONG ! GOTTA GET BACK ! BUT FIRST...
LISTEN -- I WITNESSED A MURDER ! AND THE MURDERER SAW ME AND NOW HE'S GUNNING FOR ME ! I'VE GOTTA GET WORD TO THE POLICE -- FAST !
WELL... UH... I DON'T HAVE A PHONE, BUT THERE'S ONE AROUND THE CORNER, AND YOU COULD--
NO TIME FOR THAT ! DO YOU HAVE ANY PAPER ?
SURE. UPSTAIRS, BUT...
WELL, GO GET SOME ! PLEASE ! NOW !

MINUTES LATER...
HERE! SEE TO IT THE POLICE GET THIS! I WOULDN'T TRUST PHONING IT IN--MAKE SURE THE HEAD OF HOMICIDE GETS IT PERSONALLY!
I MUST BE FLAKY FOR BELIEVING ALL THIS! BUT, OKAY... I'LL DO IT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'VE GOT SOMETHING I MUST ATTEND TO--IMMEDIATELY!
WAIT AWHILE BEFORE YOU LEAVE--I WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE CONNECTING YOU WITH ME! ...AND THANKS!
LET THE POLICE WORRY ABOUT THE MURDER! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY ORIGINAL MISSION--LOCATING MERA! NO MATTER WHERE SHE IS, I SWEAR I'LL FIND HER--AND I'LL MAKE HER CAPTORS PAY!! BUT, FIRST I HAVE TO SPEND SOME TIME IN THE WATER...
IT'S AQUAMAN! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO MAKE MYSELF A BUNDLE!
THAT MAN... HE WAS REACHING IN HIS POCKET AS I PASSED HIM! EITHER I'M GETTING JUMPY OR HE WAS GOING FOR A...
HA!
...GUN!!
10

?
WUK!
OKAY, FELLA! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?! WHY THE GUNPLAY??
C'MON! TALK!
ATTRACTED BY THE SHOT, TWO CURIOUS BACK-ALLEY RODENTS COME UPON THE SCENE...
LOOK! IT'S AQUAMAN! THIS IS MY CHANCE FOR THE REWARD!
NO! HE'S MINE!!
REWARD??
KLIK
SOMEONE HAS A REWARD OUT FOR ME? COULD IT HAVE BEEN THAT MURDERER?.. OR SOMEONE ELSE?? WHAT HAVE I STUMBLED INTO??

CAN'T TAKE... MUCH MORE... OF THIS! GOTTA GET AWAY!.. BACK TO THE SEA!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
THOSE THREE... EASY ENOUGH... CAN'T AFFORD... TO BE STOPPED... BY OTHERS!.. GETTING WEAKER WITH EACH PASSING SECOND!
LOOK! AQUAMAN!
OH, NO! ANOTHER TWO! BUT, I'M FAR ENOUGH AHEAD... SO THAT I-- OPP!
GOTTA GET... BACK UP! CAN'T LET... THEM GET TO ME! ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE MY STRENGTH IS --
BUT BEFORE THE SEA KING CAN REGAIN HIS FOOTING...
GNNNG!
12


AT THAT EXACT MOMENT, MANY MILES AWAY AND FAR BENEATH THE SEA...
SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN SENSE IT!
AQUAMAN'S IN TROUBLE! HE NEEDS HELP!
IF ONLY THERE WERE SOMETHING I COULD DO! IF ONLY I COULD GET OUTTA HERE! HOW MUCH LONGER WILL I HAVE TO SIT HERE IN THIS STUPID CAGE -- JUST SIT HERE, DAY AFTER DAY AFTER DAY??
JUST THEN...
THE KING...I SEEK THE KING! SENTRY 2 HAS SPOTTED THE BUGALA! THE BEAST IS ALMOST UPON US!!
GO! WARN THE KING! I WILL PREPARE THE ANXIOUS YOUNG WARRIOR FOR THE BATTLE HE EAGERLY AWAITS!
AH, LOOK! THE YOUNG WARRIOR IS IMPATIENT FOR BATTLE! ANY DAY NOW THE GIANT BUGALA WILL COME ONCE AGAIN TO TRY TO DESTROY THIS VILLAGE! THEN, OUR CAPTIVE SHALL HAVE THE FIGHT HE SEEKS!
YES... BUT CAN EVEN ONE AS WELL-TRAINED IN BATTLE TACTICS AS HE DEFEAT THE MONSTER??
SO -- THEY'VE FINALLY DECIDED TO DO SOMETHING WITH ME!
NO USE STRUGGLING! THEY OUT-NUMBER ME! WISH I KNEW WHERE THEY WERE TAKING ME THOUGH! AND WHY??
AND SHORTLY.
13

MEANWHILE...
STILL GROGGY FROM KICK... GETTING WEAKER-... AND WEAKER...
WON'T BE... LONG BEFORE... I PASS. OUT! I... MUST HAVE WATER... IF--
UNNGH!

THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR YOU, FISH-MAN! BUT FOR ME IT'S JUST THE START! ONCE I GET THAT REWARD, I'LL BE LIVIN' ON EASY STREET! I'LL HAVE ME A NEW CAR, ALL THE MONEY I WANT...
OH NO YOU DON'T! I SAW 'IM FIRST! THAT REWARD IS MINE BY RIGHTS!
YOU LOUSY TWO-BIT THUG!
PICK UP THAT GUN-- BY THE BARREL-- AND HAND IT BACK HERE!
...BUT I WILL GIVE YOU THIS!
HUH?!
WHA-?
HA! I'M NOT ABOUT TO HAND YOU A GUN...
THAT TEARS IT! NOW YOU'VE HAD IT!

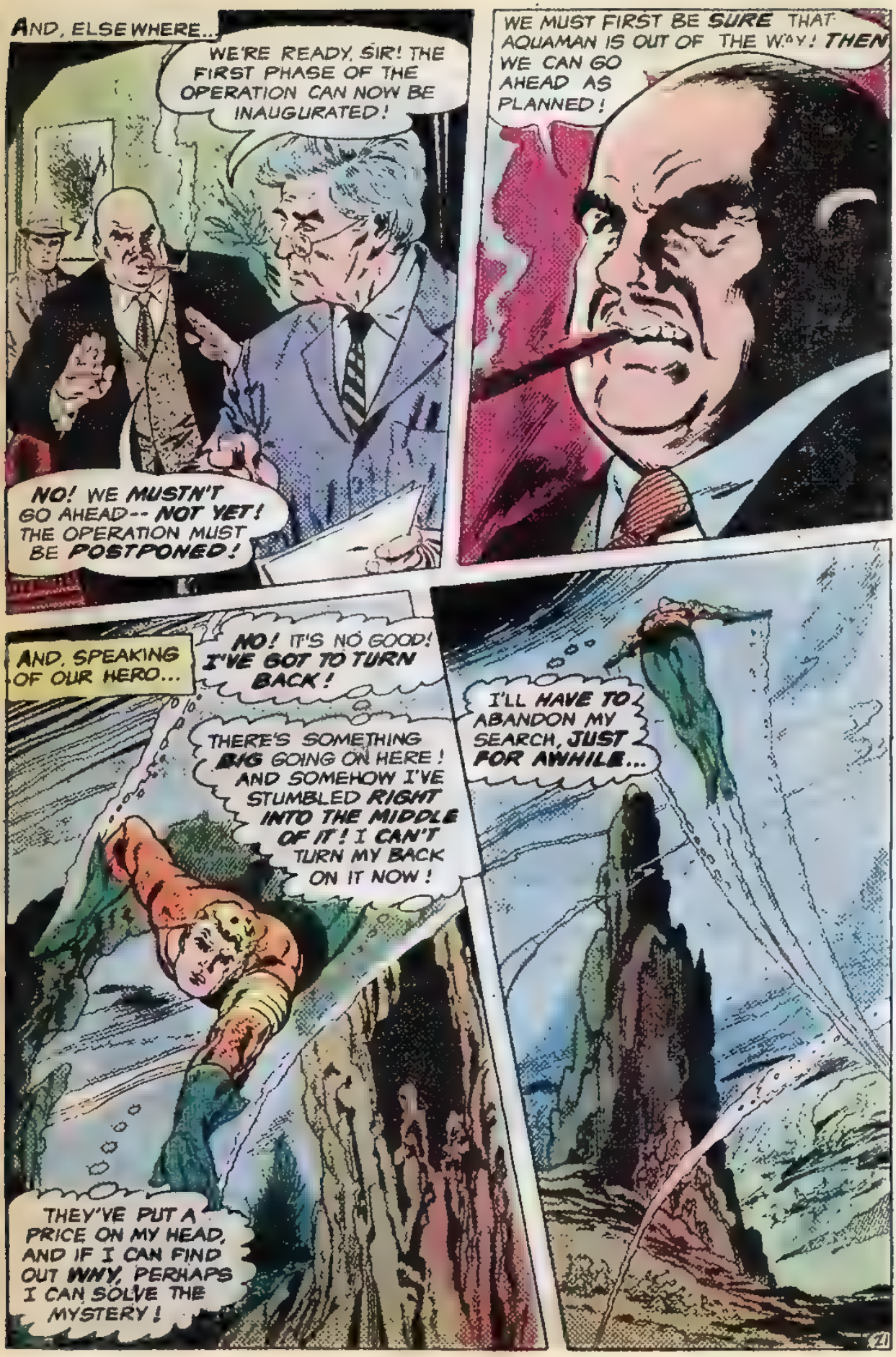
NOW I'M GONNA FINISH YOU OFF, CREEP!
WAIT! LOOK! WE'RE FIGHTING OVER NOTHING!
HUH?!
HE'S GONE... RUN OFF!
C'MON! HE MUSTA WENT THIS WAY!
I GOTTA GET MY GUN! THAT REWARD'S STILL MINE!
WE'LL ARGUE ABOUT THAT LATER! RIGHT NOW, WE GOTTA FIND HIM -- OR NEITHER OF US'LL GIT THE BUNDLE!
OKAY, OKAY-- I'M COMING!
NOWHERE IN SIGHT! BUT THIS WAY'S THE ONLY WAY HE COULDA SLIPPED OUT WITHOUT US SEEIN' 'IM!
I WAS LUCKY THAT TIME!
MY LUCK'S GOTTA HOLD A WHILE LONGER! CAN'T GIVE IN NOW!
16

THE SEA! I MADE IT!
AH, I CAN FEEL MY STRENGTH RETURNING! SOON I'LL BE STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE ON THIS WHOLE ARMY THAT'S AFTER ME!
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE !?!
THE MURDER I SAW IS NO CONCERN OF MINE! I REPORTED IT TO THE POLICE! NOW THEY CAN HANDLE IT!
SO WHAT IF SOMEONE PUT A PRICE ON MY HEAD ?? ALL I HAVE TO DO IS AVOID THESE THUGS!
I'LL HEAD UP THE COAST A BIT... TO ANOTHER CITY... AND CONTINUE MY SEARCH FOR MERA THERE!

WE'VE LOST HIM! YOU DUMB CREEP!.. I COULDA FINISHED 'IM OFF IF YOU HADN'T BUTTED IN!
WAIT! UP AHEAD! THE OCEAN!
THE OCEAN IS AQUAMAN'S HOME! THAT'S WHY HE HEADED THIS WAY!
AND I'M BETTING HE'S AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE! ALL'S WE GOTTA DO IS KEEP SEARCHING -- AND KEEP OUR EYES OPEN!
YEAH! MAYBE YOU'VE GOT A POINT! WORTH A TRY, ANYWAY!
MEANWHILE, AQUAMAN'S NARROW ESCAPE IS NOTED IN OTHER QUARTERS ALSO...
I... I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT! BUT... BUT I NO LONGER HAVE THIS STRANGE SENSATION OF DREAD.. THE FEELING THAT AQUAMAN IS IN TROUBLE IS GONE!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?! WHY HAVE THEY BROUGHT ME HERE... AND ARMED ME WITH A SPEAR??
THEY SEEM TO WANT ME TO HEAD THROUGH THIS PASSAGE-WAY! BUT WHAT COU--
HUH! THE GROUND-- SHAKING! WHAT IN--??
OMIGOSH!! THIS IS WHY THEY BROUGHT ME HERE!

HUGE AND HIDEOUS, THE DREAD BUGALA...AND WITH IT, A SUDDEN REALIZATION!
THEY WANT ME TO FIGHT THIS THING!
AND...AND THAT'S WHY THERE WERE NO YOUNG MEN IN THE VILLAGE! THEY MUST HAVE ALL DIED IN PREVIOUS BATTLES WITH THIS MONSTER! SO--THESE OLD MEN HAD TO GET AN OUTSIDER TO DO THEIR FIGHTING FOR THEM!
AND...IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT NO CHOICE! SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO DEFEAT THIS THING!
19

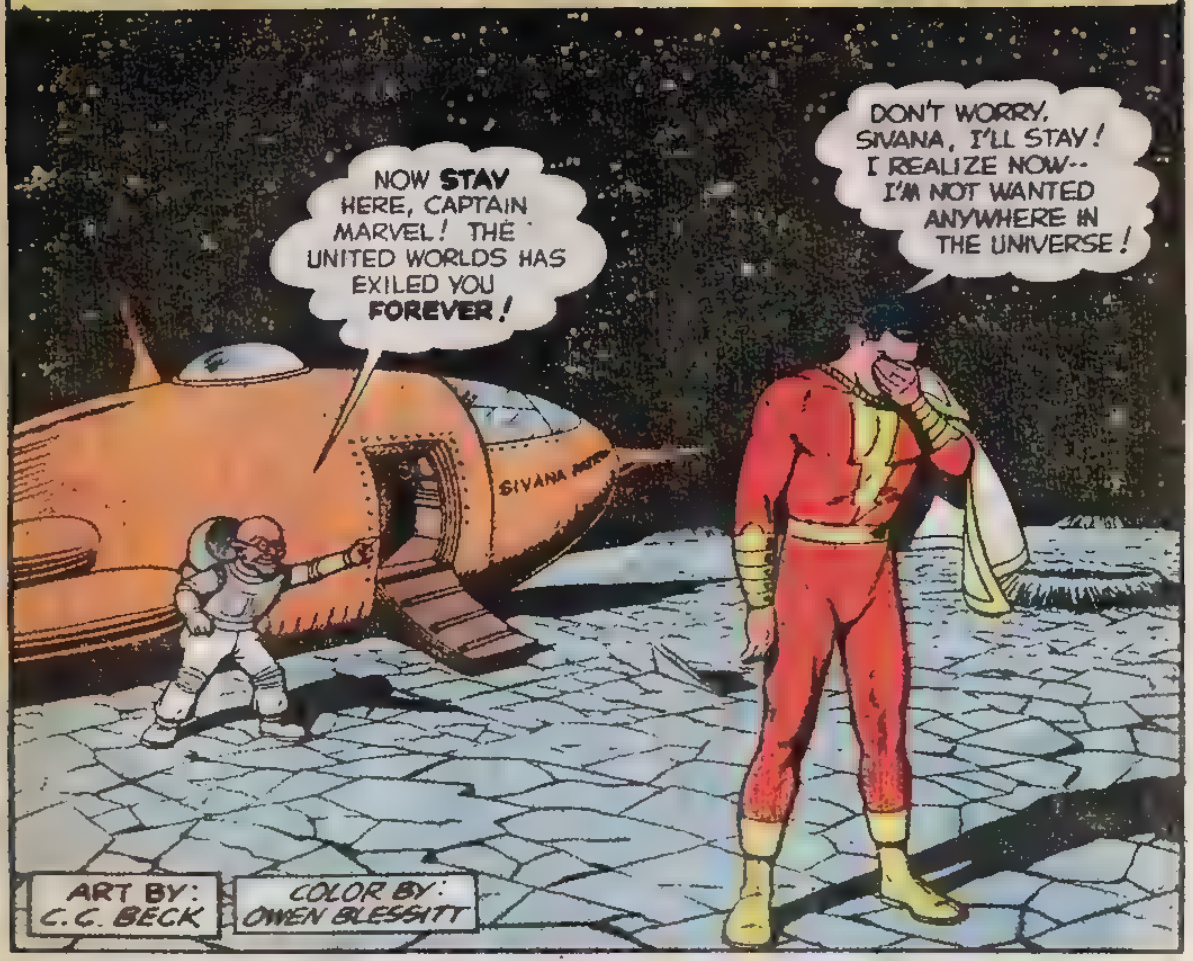
MEANTIME...
NO, I'D RATHER GIVE THIS TO THE HEAD OF HOMICIDE PERSONALLY, IF YOU DON'T MIND!
WHATEVER YOU SAY, MA'AM!
WHA-? THAT NOTE'S SIGNED BY AQUAMAN!
THEN... MAYBE THIS GIRL KNOWS WHERE HE IS! THIS MIGHT JUST BE MY CHANCE TO COLLECT THAT REWARD I HEARD TELL ABOUT!
OKAY, REYNOLDS -- MOVE ALONG! YOU'RE FREE TO GO! WE HAVEN'T SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO HOLD YOU -- THIS TIME!
HUH? OH, YEAH... I'M GOING! DON'T GIT PUSHY!
HE'LL BE WITH YOU IN JUST A MOMENT, MA'AM!
THANK YOU!
SHORTLY...
WELL, I'VE DONE MY PART AS A GOOD CITIZEN! NOW, TO CATCH MY BUS!
SUDDENLY...
DON'T MAKE A SOUND, SISTER! JUST MOVE ON INTO THE ALLEY -- NOW!
HUNH??
YOU HEARD ME! MOVE! IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING, THIS IS A GUN I'VE GOT SHOVED IN YOUR BACK!
20

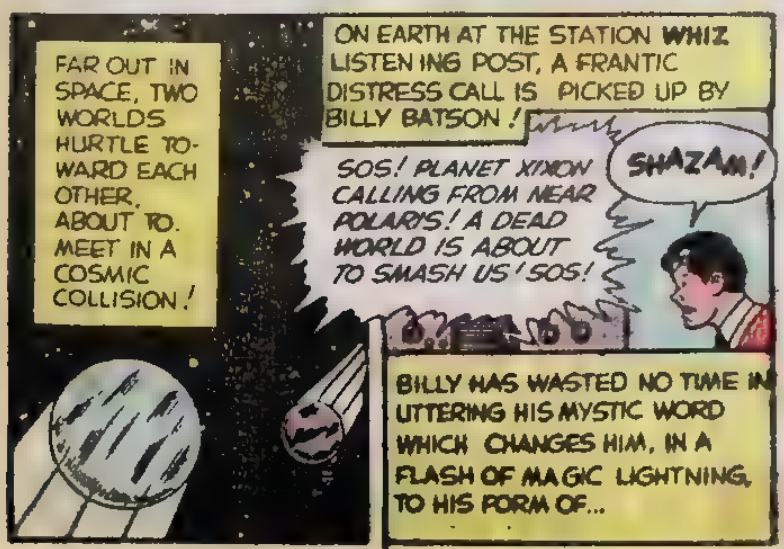

AND, ELSEWHERE..
WE'RE READY, SIR! THE FIRST PHASE OF THE OPERATION CAN NOW BE INAUGURATED!
NO! WE MUSTN'T GO AHEAD-- NOT YET! THE OPERATION MUST BE POSTPONED!
WE MUST FIRST BE SURE THAT AQUAMAN IS OUT OF THE WAY! THEN WE CAN GO AHEAD AS PLANNED!
AND, SPEAKING OF OUR HERO...
NO! IT'S NO GOOD! I'VE GOT TO TURN BACK!
THERE'S SOMETHING BIG GOING ON HERE! AND SOMEHOW I'VE STUMBLED RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF IT! I CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON IT NOW!
I'LL HAVE TO ABANDON MY SEARCH, JUST FOR AWHILE...
THEY'VE PUT A PRICE ON MY HEAD, AND IF I CAN FIND OUT WHY, PERHAPS I CAN SOLVE THE MYSTERY!
21

KRAK
OH, NO! HERE WE GO AGAIN!
IT'S THE SAME TWO GUYS I RAN FROM BEFORE...
THE BEST IS YET TO COME!!
DON'T MISS THE BLAZING CONCLUSION OF
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
AWENTURE!

# Captain MARVEL

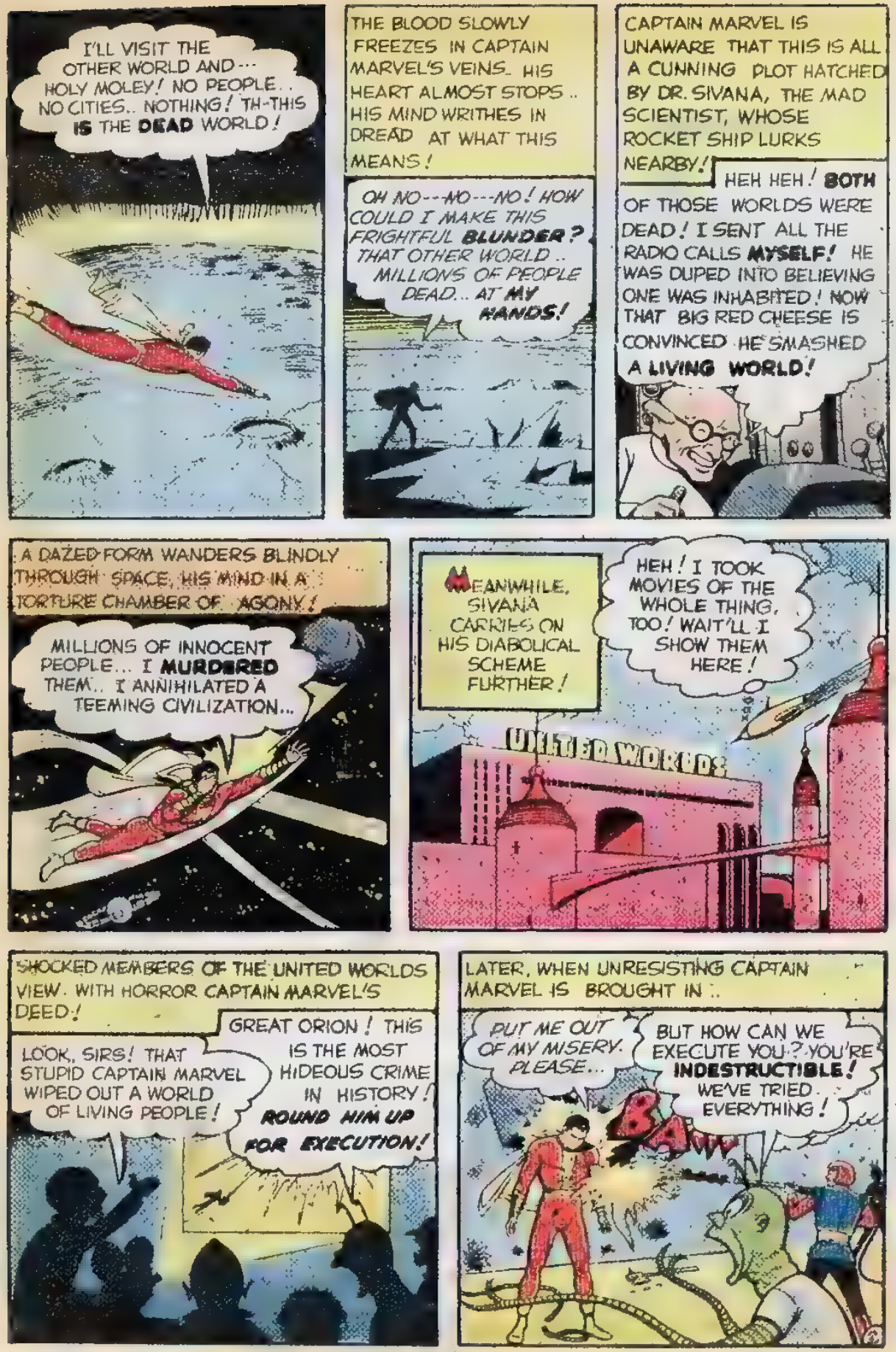
## THE MAN WITHOUT A WORLD!


NOW STAY HERE, CAPTAIN MARVEL! THE UNITED WORLDS HAS EXILED YOU FOREVER!
DON'T WORRY, SIVANA, I'LL STAY! I REALIZE NOW-- I'M NOT WANTED ANYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE!
SIVANA
ART BY: C.C. BECK
COLOR BY: OWEN BLESSITT


FAR OUT IN SPACE, TWO WORLDS HURTLE TOWARD EACH OTHER, ABOUT TO MEET IN A COSMIC COLLISION!
ON EARTH AT THE STATION WHIZ LISTENING POST, A FRANTIC DISTRESS CALL IS PICKED UP BY BILLY BATSON!
SOS! PLANET XIXON CALLING FROM NEAR POLARIS! A DEAD WORLD IS ABOUT TO SMASH US! SOS!
SHAZAM!
BILLY HAS WASTED NO TIME IN UTTERING HIS MYSTIC WORD WHICH CHANGES HIM, IN A FLASH OF MAGIC LIGHTNING, TO HIS FORM OF...

...MIGHTY CAPTAIN MARVEL, WHO IGNORES NO CALL FOR HELP IN ALL THE UNIVERSE!
I'D BETTER TAKE THIS BATTERY-POWERED RADIO ALONG TO PICK UP FURTHER CALLS!

AWAY FROM EARTH SPEEDS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL TO SAVE ANOTHER WORLD FROM CELESTIAL DOOM!
SOS! DEAD WORLD COMING CLOSE! HELP! CAN ANYONE IN THE UNIVERSE HELP US?
COMING! LET'S SEE, POLARIS, OR THE NORTH STAR, CAN BE FOUND BY MEANS OF THE BIG DIPPER CONSTELLATION!
CAPTAIN MARVEL USES THE WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT THE TWO END STARS IN THE CUP OF THE BIG DIPPER POINT ALMOST DIRECTLY TO POLARIS, THE NORTH STAR.
POLARIS
BIG DIPPER
SOON, AT FANTASTIC VELOCITY, THE HERO OF THE COSMOS REACHES THE IMPENDING DISASTER!
HOLY MOLEY! NO TIME TO LOSE! NOW THE RADIO WILL TELL ME WHICH ONE IS XIXON, THE INHABITED WORLD!
XIXON CALLING! HELP... HELP!
LEAVING HIS RADIO IN SPACE, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL BEGINS THE MIGHTIEST JOB IN THE UNIVERSE... WRECKING A WORLD!
THIS IS THE DEAD BABY! FIRST, TO OPEN UP A BIG CRACK!
BAMM
THAT SPLITS IT IN HALF!
KRAAAK
BEFORE THE THIRD AND FINAL STEP REACHES A CONCLUSION, CAPTAIN MARVEL RETURNS TO HIS RADIO IN SPACE, AND...
ATTENTION, XIXON! I SHOVED ONE HALF TOWARD THE OTHER! WATCH THEM SMASH TOGETHER INTO A MILLION BITS!
WAIT.... STOP... YOU FOOL... YOU'RE DESTROYING THE WRONG WORLD! STOP!
WHAM
THE WRONG WORLD? WHAT HAVE I DONE?
GHAAAAA

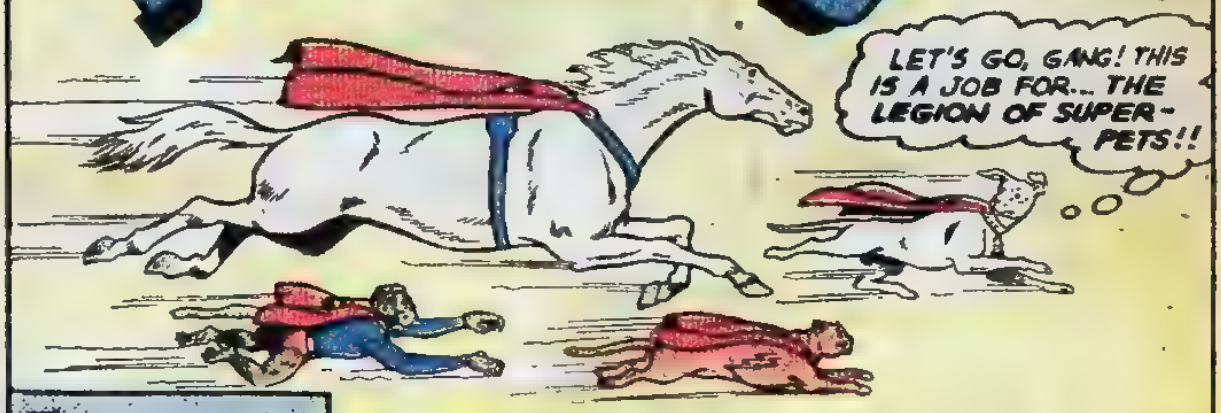

I'LL VISIT THE OTHER WORLD AND··· HOLY MOLEY! NO PEOPLE.. NO CITIES.. NOTHING! TH-THIS IS THE DEAD WORLD!
THE BLOOD SLOWLY FREEZES IN CAPTAIN MARVEL'S VEINS. HIS HEART ALMOST STOPS .. HIS MIND WRITHES IN DREAD AT WHAT THIS MEANS!
OH NO---NO---NO! HOW COULD I MAKE THIS FRIGHTFUL BLUNDER? THAT OTHER WORLD .. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE DEAD.. AT MY HANDS!
CAPTAIN MARVEL IS UNAWARE THAT THIS IS ALL A CUNNING PLOT HATCHED BY DR. SIVANA, THE MAD SCIENTIST, WHOSE ROCKET SHIP LURKS NEARBY!
HEH HEH! BOTH OF THOSE WORLDS WERE DEAD! I SENT ALL THE RADIO CALLS MYSELF! HE WAS DUPED INTO BELIEVING ONE WAS INHABITED! NOW THAT BIG RED CHEESE IS CONVINCED HE SMASHED A LIVING WORLD!
A DAZED FORM WANDERS BLINDLY THROUGH SPACE, HIS MIND IN A TORTURE CHAMBER OF AGONY!
MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE... I MURDERED THEM.. I ANNIHILATED A TEEMING CIVILIZATION...
MEANWHILE, SIVANA CARRIES ON HIS DIABOLICAL SCHEME FURTHER!
HEH! I TOOK MOVIES OF THE WHOLE THING, TOO! WAIT'LL I SHOW THEM HERE!
UNITED WORLDS
SHOCKED MEMBERS OF THE UNITED WORLDS VIEW WITH HORROR CAPTAIN MARVEL'S DEED!
LOOK, SIRS! THAT STUPID CAPTAIN MARVEL WIPED OUT A WORLD OF LIVING PEOPLE!
GREAT ORION! THIS IS THE MOST HIDEOUS CRIME IN HISTORY! ROUND HIM UP FOR EXECUTION!
LATER, WHEN UNRESISTING CAPTAIN MARVEL IS BROUGHT IN ..
PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY. PLEASE...
BUT HOW CAN WE EXECUTE YOU? YOU'RE INDESTRUCTIBLE! WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING!
BAM!

FINALLY...
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO! WE'LL EXILE YOU FROM THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE! GO, YOU BLOODY WORLD WRECKER... GO!
THE MAN WITHOUT A WORLD
HENCEFORTH YOU ARE THE MAN WITHOUT A WORLD! EXILED FROM EVERY-WHERE! GO!
THE EVIL HEART OF SIVANA GLOATS IN WILD TRIUMPH AT HIS COSMIC COUP!
HEH HEH! I'M RID OF THAT BIG DUMMOX--- FOREVER! NOW I CAN TAKE OVER EARTH AND IN DUE TIME, THE WHOLE UNIVERSE!
A PITIFUL FIGURE RETURNS TO EARTH, HOPING TO FIND SYMPATHY, BUT
PLEASE, FOLKS...
SHAME!
GET GOING!
SCRAM, YOU FIEND!
ON EVERY WORLD THE RECEPTION IS THE SAME!
PLEASE... LET ME STAY JUST ONE HOUR..
BLAM
DRIVE THAT WORLD-MURDERER AWAY! FIRE!
THERE IS NO HAVEN FOR THE MAN WITHOUT A WORLD, AND EVEN EARTH'S MIGHTIEST MAN SLOWLY CRACKS UNDER THE STRAIN!
I COULD CHANGE TO BILLY... DIE IN SPACE... NO, THAT'S THE COWARD'S WAY OUT! WAIT... THERE'S ONE WORLD I CAN LIVE ON...
THAT DEAD WORLD I FAILED TO DESTROY BEFORE! I'LL GO THERE!
NO PEOPLE HERE, TO STONE ME AND HISS AT ME! THE ONLY THING LEFT FOR ME IS TO BECOME A HERMIT!
4

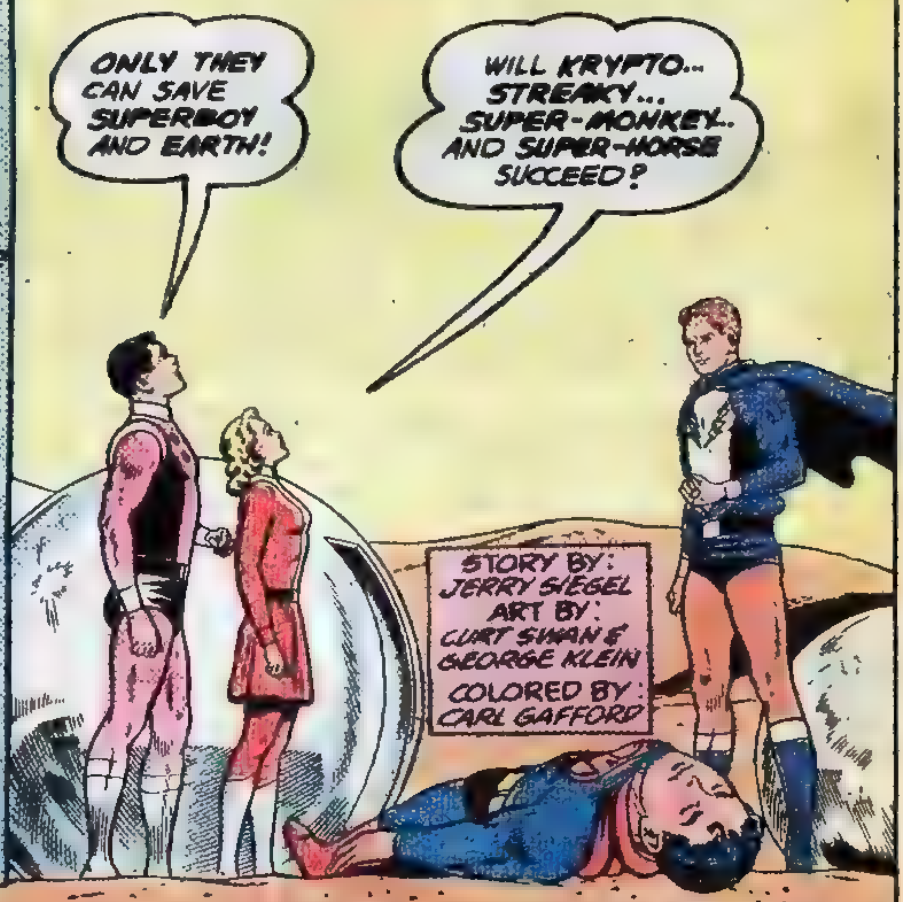
I'LL GO DOWN DEEP WHERE NOBODY WILL EVER SEE ME AGAIN.. GOSH, THIS CAVE SEEMS TO EXTEND DOWN FOR ENDLESS MILES!
FAR UNDERGROUND, THERE IS AN AMAZING SURPRISE!
HOLY MOLEY! A CITY DOWN HERE... PEOPLE! THEN--- THEN I DID SAVE SOME PEOPLE AFTER ALL!
WHY, WE USED TO LIVE ON THAT WORLD YOU WRECKED, BUT WHEN IT GOT TOO COLD THERE WE MOVED TO THIS PLANET!
CAPTAIN MARVEL HEARS EVEN MORE JOYFUL NEWS AFTER TELLING HIS STORY!
THEN I DID SAVE A LIVING PLANET! THE OTHER ONE WAS DESERTED!
MY EXILE IS OVER!
MEANWHILE, ON EARTH, SIVANA HAS THINGS ALL HIS OWN WAY, WITHOUT CAPTAIN MARVEL AROUND!
ATTENTION, EARTH! SURRENDER TO KING SIVANA, OR I'LL BLAST YOUR CITIES TO ATOMS!
BUT A CRIMSON FORM ARRIVES VENGEFULLY!
HI, SIVANA! AFTER WRECKING A WHOLE WORLD, WRECKING YOUR SHIP IS CHILD'S PLAY!
WHAMM
I CHECKED UP AT THE "UNITED WORLDS" HEADQUARTERS, AND THEN SAW THROUGH YOUR WHOLE SNEAKY PLOT TO MAKE ME THE MAN WITHOUT A WORLD! DEAR ME--- SUCH LANGUAGE!
FINALLY, AS BILLY GIVES THE NEWS...
THAT LEFT SIVANA THE KING WITHOUT A KINGDOM! AS FOR CAPTAIN MARVEL, HE'S ONCE AGAIN THE HONORED HERO OF A MILLION WORLDS!
END
5

# SUPERBOY

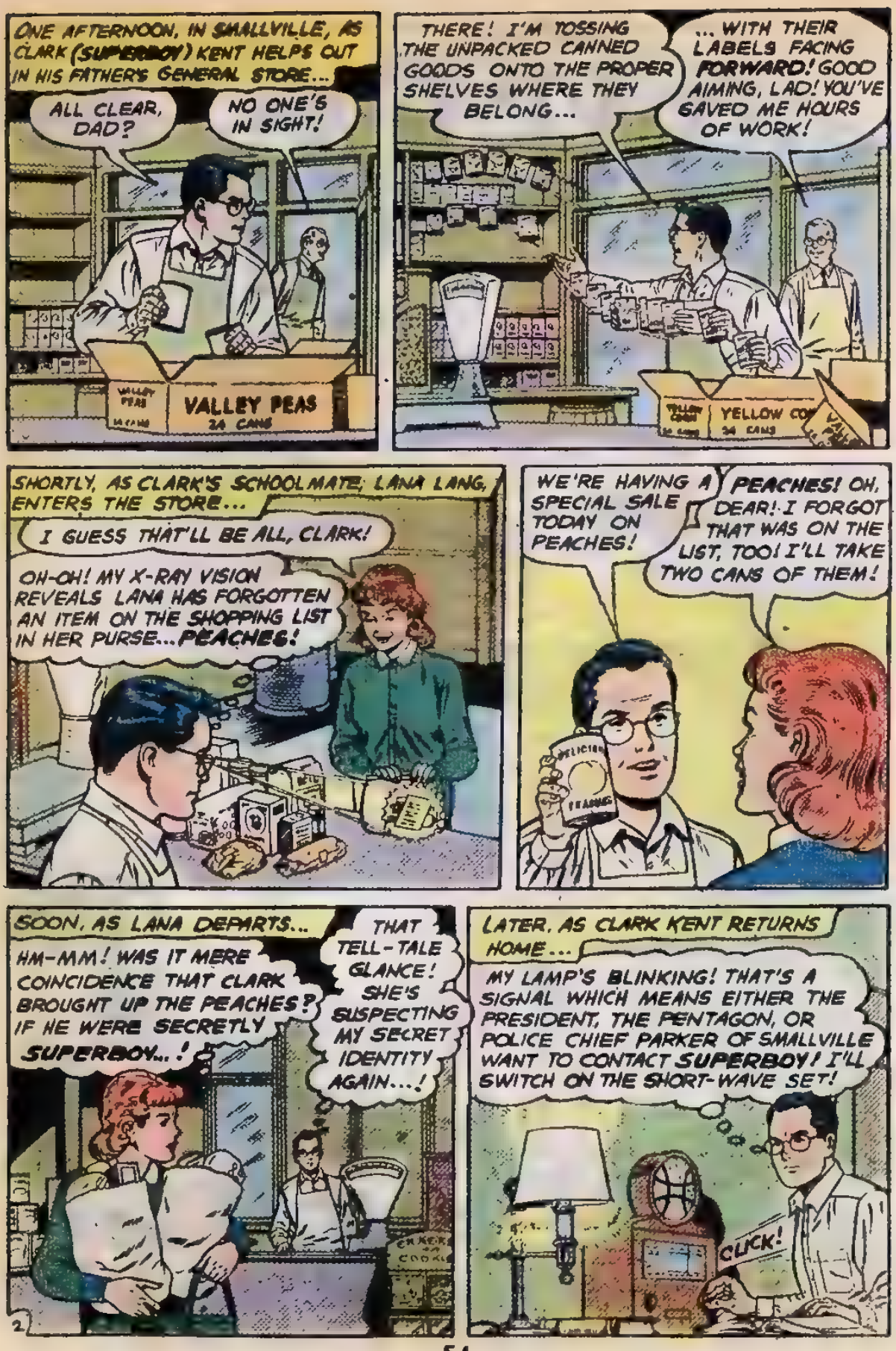
A LEGION SUPER HEROES SPECIAL! ™



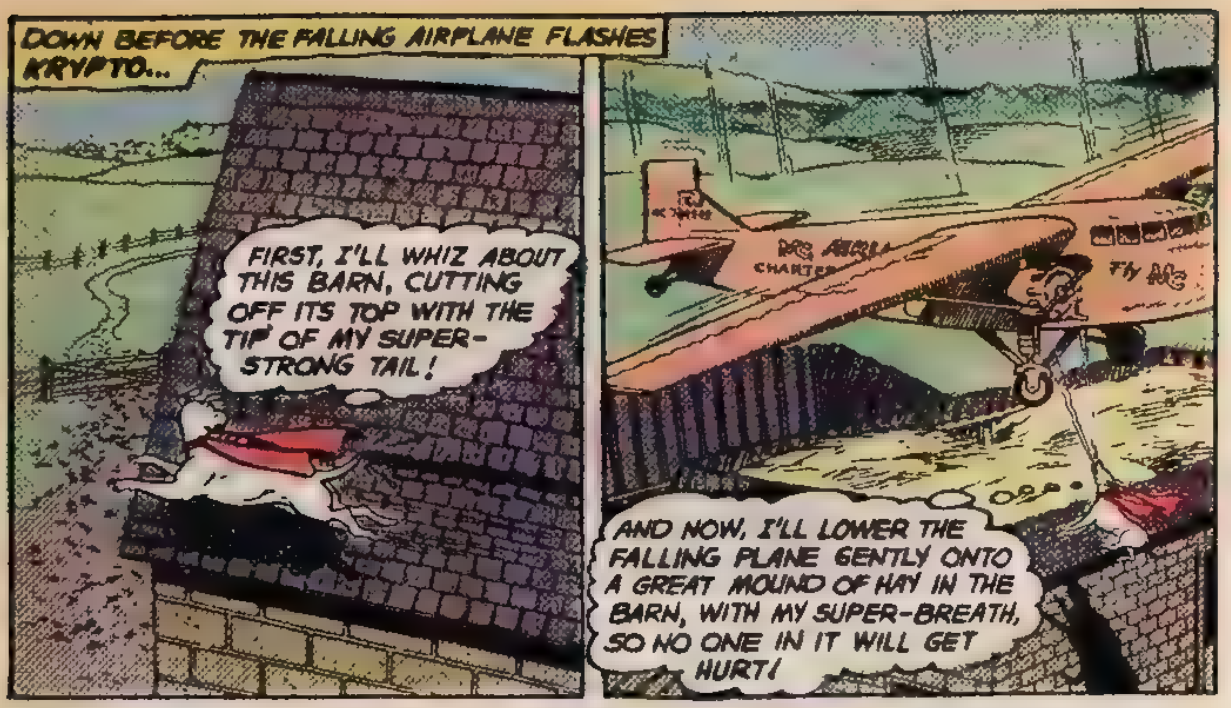

THOUGH SUPERBOY IS THE MIGHTIEST BOY ON EARTH, ADMIRED BY ALL BUT THE CRIMINALS HE BATTLES, IT IS ONLY NATURAL FOR HIM TO WANT FRIENDS WHO POSSESS TREMENDOUS POWERS LIKE HIMSELF! THIS HEARTFELT DESIRE CAME TRUE THE DAY HE JOINED THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, A CLUB OF THE FAR-DISTANT FUTURE... FOR EACH LEGIONNAIRE HAS AT LEAST ONE SUPER-POWER! THE BOY OF STEEL CONSIDERS THE SUPER CLUB MEMBERS TO BE HIS STAUNCH FRIENDS, AND SO IT IS A TERRIBLE BLOW TO HIM, ONE DAY, WHEN HIS SUPER-YOUTH COMRADES TURN ON HIM AND BECOME...

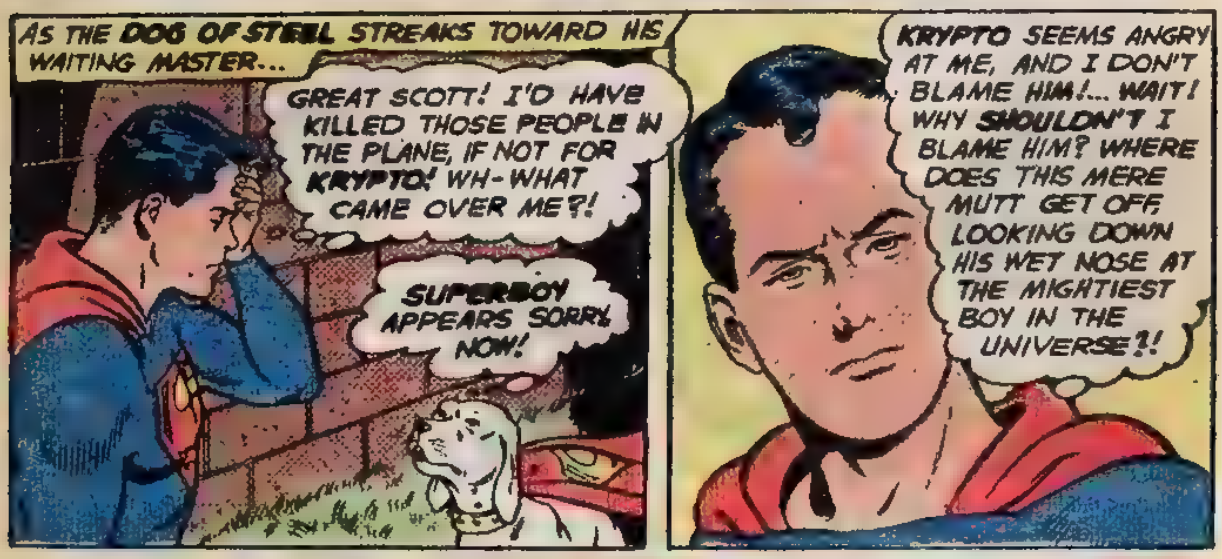

ONLY THEY CAN SAVE SUPERBOY AND EARTH!
WILL KRYPTO... STREAKY... SUPER-MONKEY.. AND SUPER-HORSE SUCCEED?
STORY BY: JERRY SIEGEL
ART BY: CURT SWAN & GEORGE KLEIN
COLORED BY: CARL GAFFORD

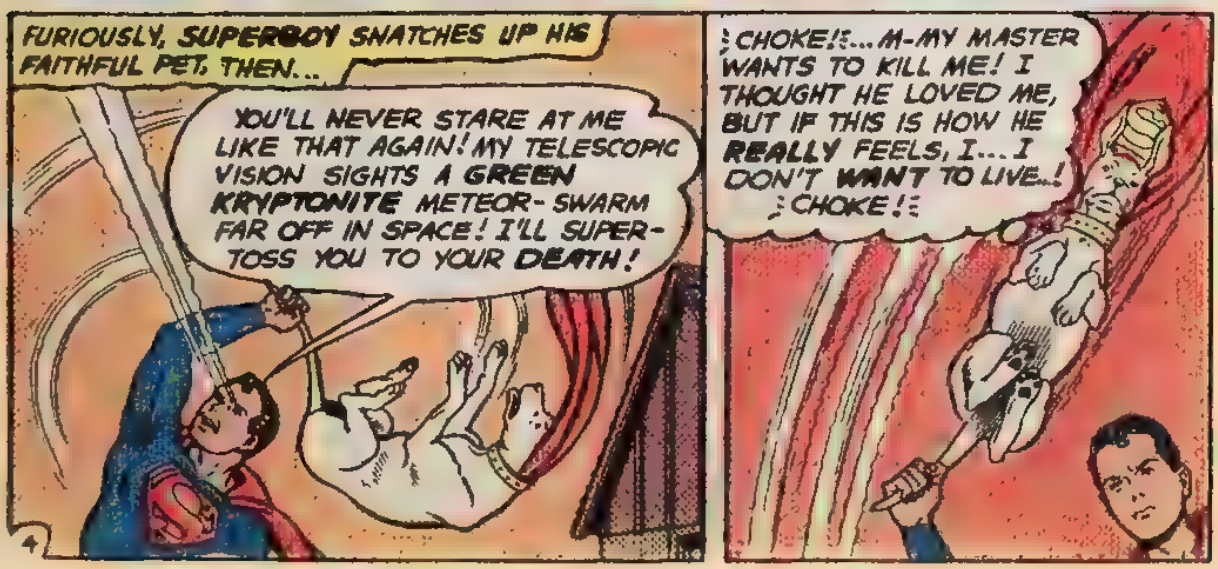
# The LEGION of SUPER-TRAITORS!


ONE AFTERNOON, IN SMALLVILLE, AS CLARK (SUPERBOY) KENT HELPS OUT IN HIS FATHER'S GENERAL STORE...
ALL CLEAR, DAD?
NO ONE'S IN SIGHT!
VALLEY PEAS
24 CANS
THERE! I'M TOSSING THE UNPACKED CANNED GOODS ONTO THE PROPER SHELVES WHERE THEY BELONG...
...WITH THEIR LABELS FACING FORWARD! GOOD AIMING, LAD! YOU'VE SAVED ME HOURS OF WORK!
YELLOW CO
24 CANS
SHORTLY, AS CLARK'S SCHOOLMATE, LANA LANG, ENTERS THE STORE...
I GUESS THAT'LL BE ALL, CLARK!
OH-OH! MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS LANA HAS FORGOTTEN AN ITEM ON THE SHOPPING LIST IN HER PURSE...PEACHES!
WE'RE HAVING A SPECIAL SALE TODAY ON PEACHES!
PEACHES! OH, DEAR! I FORGOT THAT WAS ON THE LIST, TOO! I'LL TAKE TWO CANS OF THEM!
SOON, AS LANA DEPARTS...
HM-MM! WAS IT MERE COINCIDENCE THAT CLARK BROUGHT UP THE PEACHES? IF HE WERE SECRETLY SUPERBOY...!
THAT TELL-TALE GLANCE! SHE'S SUSPECTING MY SECRET IDENTITY AGAIN...!
LATER, AS CLARK KENT RETURNS HOME...
MY LAMP'S BLINKING! THAT'S A SIGNAL WHICH MEANS EITHER THE PRESIDENT, THE PENTAGON, OR POLICE CHIEF PARKER OF SMALLVILLE WANT TO CONTACT SUPERBOY! I'LL SWITCH ON THE SHORT-WAVE SET!
CLICK!

CHIEF PARKER CALLING SUPERBOY! A PLANE'S IN DISTRESS OVER SMALLVILLE'S OUTSKIRTS! IT'S RAPIDLY LOSING ALTITUDE! HURRY, LAD!
QUICKLY, CLARK REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, CHANGING TO HIS SECRET, DYNAMIC IDENTITY OF SUPERBOY...
INTO THE SECRET TUNNEL... THEN OFF TO THE RESCUE!
A SPLIT MOMENT AFTERWARD, AT THE TUNNEL'S EXIT IN A WOODS...
NO ONE EVER SIGHTS SUPERBOY ENTERING OR LEAVING THE KENT HOME-- AND SO MY DUAL-IDENTITY SET-UP IS PROTECTED!
AS SUPERBOY NEARS THE STRICKEN PLANE, A RECKLESS IMPULSE SEIZES HIM...
SAVING THE PLANE WILL BE A CINCH! WAIT! I'M ALWAYS RESCUING ENDANGERED AIRCRAFT! THIS TIME I'LL BE... DIFFERENT!
INSTEAD OF SAVING THE PLANE, I'LL WRECK IT! HA, HA, HA! THE PROPELLER'S SHATTERING ON MY INVULNERABLE HAND!... FALL, PLANE!!!
?!... YIPES! I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
RETURNING FROM ROMPING IN OUTER SPACE, SUPERBOY'S SUPERDOG PET, KRYPTO, IS STUNNED AT WHAT HE SEES...
MY MASTER ALWAYS DOES GOOD, NOT BAD THINGS LIKE... THIS! I'D BETTER ACT FAST, BEFORE LIVES ARE LOST!

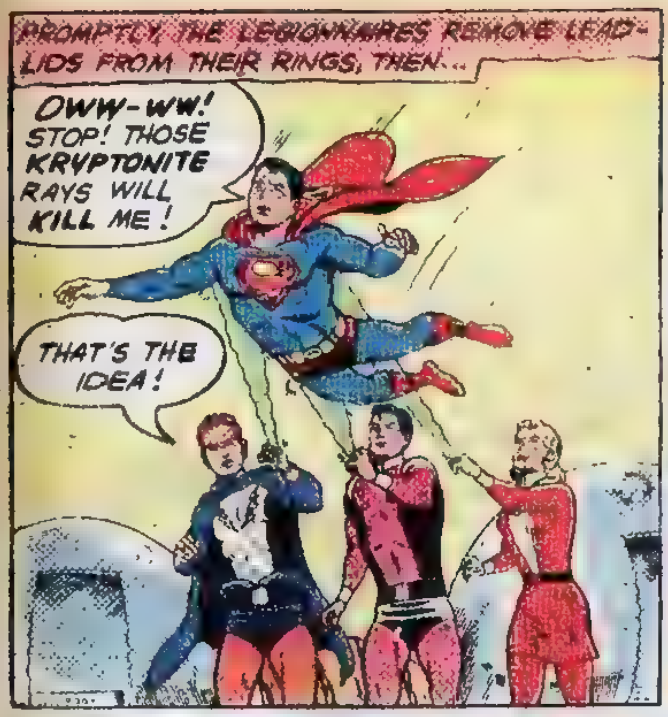

DOWN BEFORE THE FALLING AIRPLANE FLASHES KRYPTO...
FIRST, I'LL WHIZ ABOUT THIS BARN, CUTTING OFF ITS TOP WITH THE TIP OF MY SUPER-STRONG TAIL!
AND NOW, I'LL LOWER THE FALLING PLANE GENTLY ONTO A GREAT MOUND OF HAY IN THE BARN, WITH MY SUPER-BREATH, SO NO ONE IN IT WILL GET HURT!

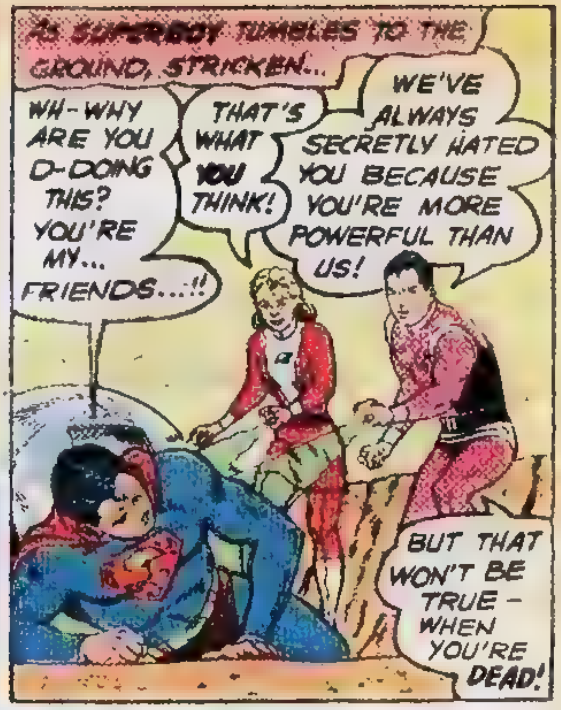

AS THE DOG OF STEEL STREAKS TOWARD HIS WAITING MASTER...
GREAT SCOTT! I'D HAVE KILLED THOSE PEOPLE IN THE PLANE, IF NOT FOR KRYPTO! WH-WHAT CAME OVER ME?!
SUPERBOY APPEARS SORRY NOW!
KRYPTO SEEMS ANGRY AT ME, AND I DON'T BLAME HIM!... WAIT! WHY SHOULDN'T I BLAME HIM? WHERE DOES THIS MERE MUTT GET OFF, LOOKING DOWN HIS WET NOSE AT THE MIGHTIEST BOY IN THE UNIVERSE?!

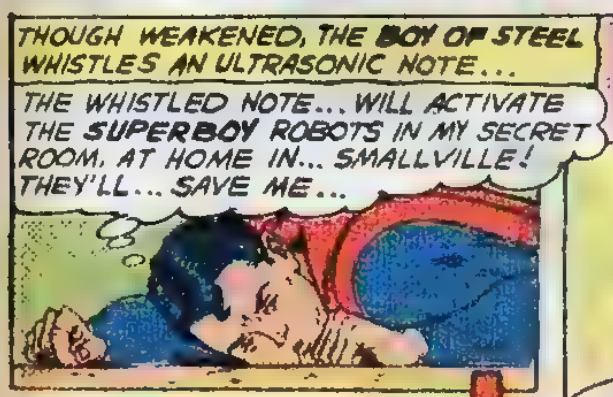

FURIOUSLY, SUPERBOY SNATCHES UP HIS FAITHFUL PET, THEN...
YOU'LL NEVER STARE AT ME LIKE THAT AGAIN! MY TELESCOPIC VISION SIGHTS A GREEN KRYPTONITE METEOR-SWARM FAR OFF IN SPACE! I'LL SUPER-TOSS YOU TO YOUR DEATH!
:CHOKE!:... M-MY MASTER WANTS TO KILL ME! I THOUGHT HE LOVED ME, BUT IF THIS IS HOW HE REALLY FEELS, I... I DON'T WANT TO LIVE..! :CHOKE!:

ABRUPTLY, THE BOY OF STEEL'S TERRIBLE RAGE DEPARTS...
FORGIVE ME, KRYPTO! I DIDN'T MEAN THAT! I'M SORRY! I... DON'T KNOW WHAT POSSESSED ME...
I'M GLAD HE DOESN'T HATE ME ANYMORE!
LATER, AS SUPERBOY RETURNS HOME, AND CONFIDES IN HIS PARENTS...
FOLKS, I'M--SCARED! WHY'D I DO THOSE AWFUL THINGS? I WAS ALMOST A MURDERER! AND POOR KRYPTO WAS HEART-BROKEN...
:GASP!:
HOW TERRIBLE..!
AFTER THEIR SON DROPS OFF TO SLEEP...
DID SUPERBOY UNKNOWINGLY ENCOUNTER RED KRYPTONITE, WHICH ALWAYS AFFECTS HIM UNPREDICTABLY?
MAYBE HE'S THE VICTIM OF SOME DELAYED REACTION CAUSED BY SOME UNKNOWN FORCE HE MET ON ANOTHER PLANET!
NEXT DAY, IN THE KENT HOME...
THE SIGNAL-LAMP IS NOW FLASHING A CODE MESSAGE. THAT CODE MEANS I'M TO CONTACT THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES FROM THE FUTURE, AT THE PLACE WE USUALLY MEET WHEN THEY VISIT THIS TIME-ERA!
SWITCHING IDENTITIES, CLARK STREAKS OFF TO THE HEART OF THE GOBI DESERT...
HI, SUPERBOY! I SEE YOU GOT THE CODE MESSAGE I SENT OVER YOUR SIGNAL-LAMP, VIA MY MASTERY OF ELECTRICITY!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, LIGHTNING LAD! AND YOU, TOO, COSMIC BOY AND SATURN GIRL!
THEY TRAVELED HERE, THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER, IN THEIR TIME-SPHERE!... WHAT'S THAT STRANGE DEVICE THEY'VE SET UP, I WONDER??
5

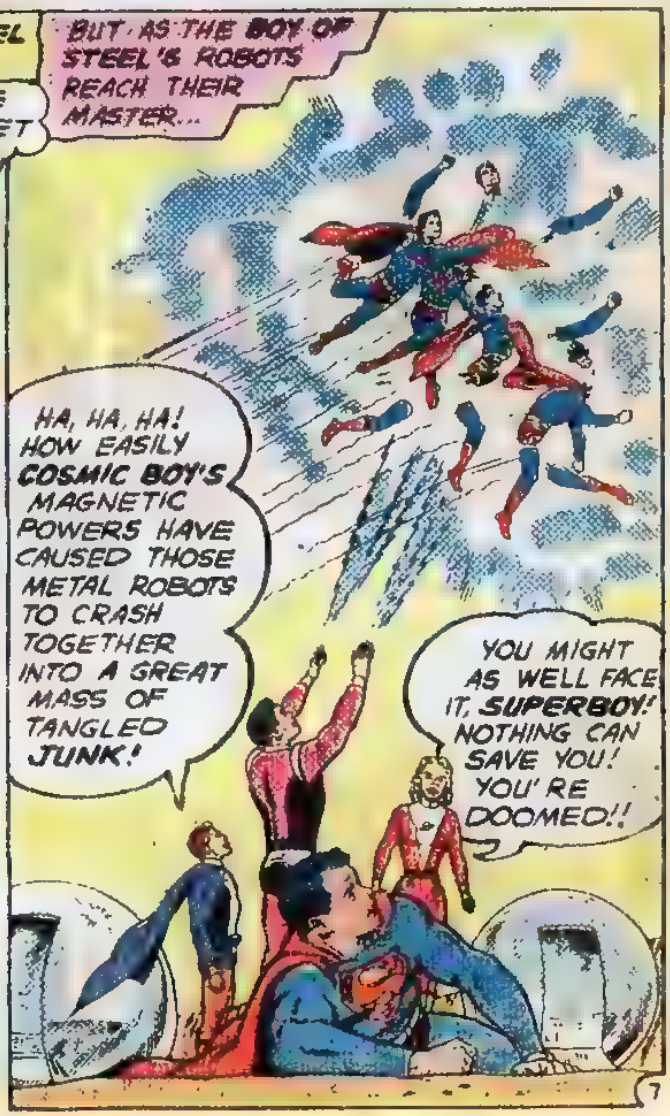
SUPERBOY, THIS INTRA-DIMENSIONAL LENS WE'VE BUILT ENABLES US TO LOOK INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE AND VIEW CRIMINALS WHO WERE SENTENCED THERE BY JUDGES OF THE PLANET KRYPTON BEFORE IT EXPLODED!
SINCE YOU'RE FROM KRYPTON, TOO...
... WE'D LIKE YOU TO IDENTIFY THE PHANTOMS, FOR OUR RECORDS!
;GASP!... THAT'S... JAX-UR! HE WAS SENTENCED INTO THE ZONE FOR DESTROYING AN INHABITED KRYPTONIAN MOON DURING AN EXPERIMENT! ONCE, HE TEMPORARILY ESCAPED TO EARTH AND MASQUERADED IN SMALLVILLE AS A SUPER PA KENT!
SUPER-BRAT! YOUR FATHER JOR-EL TESTIFIED AGAINT ME!
SIMPLE! THIS SPEAKER BROADCASTS THE PHANTOMS' VOICES!
THAT'S GENERAL ZOD, WHO TRIED TO MAKE HIMSELF DICTATOR OF KRYPTON WITH AN ARMY OF IMPERFECT DUPLICATES OF HIMSELF HE HAD CREATED! BUT HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO HEAR HIM?
THIS IS... ;CHOKE!! MON-EL... A FRIEND FROM THE PLANET DAXAM! I PLACED HIM IN THE ZONE UNTIL I CAN SOME DAY DISCOVER A CURE FOR HIS VULNERABILITY ...CAUSED BY EXPOSURE TO LEAD... WHICH AFFECTS HIM LIKE KRYPTONITE AFFECTS ME!
AS SUPERBOY SADLY LOOKS AWAY, SUDDENLY...
GREAT SCOTT! MATERIALIZING HANDS... AND FEET ... EMERGING FROM THE LENS!!
SUPERBOY! THIS IS MON-EL! THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGION ARE BETRAYING YOU! THEY'RE RELEASING THE CRIMINALS IN THE PHANTOM ZONE! WATCH OUT!
SWIFTLY, THE BOY OF STEEL ACTS...
;GASP!... THIS ISN'T A VIEWER! IT'S A DEVICE THAT WOULD HAVE OPENED THE PHANTOM ZONE AND ENABLED THESE VILLAINS TO COME OUT AND TRY TO DESTROY ME!
PLAN "A" FAILED!
QUICK! WE'LL USE... PLAN "B"!!
BWAMM!
6

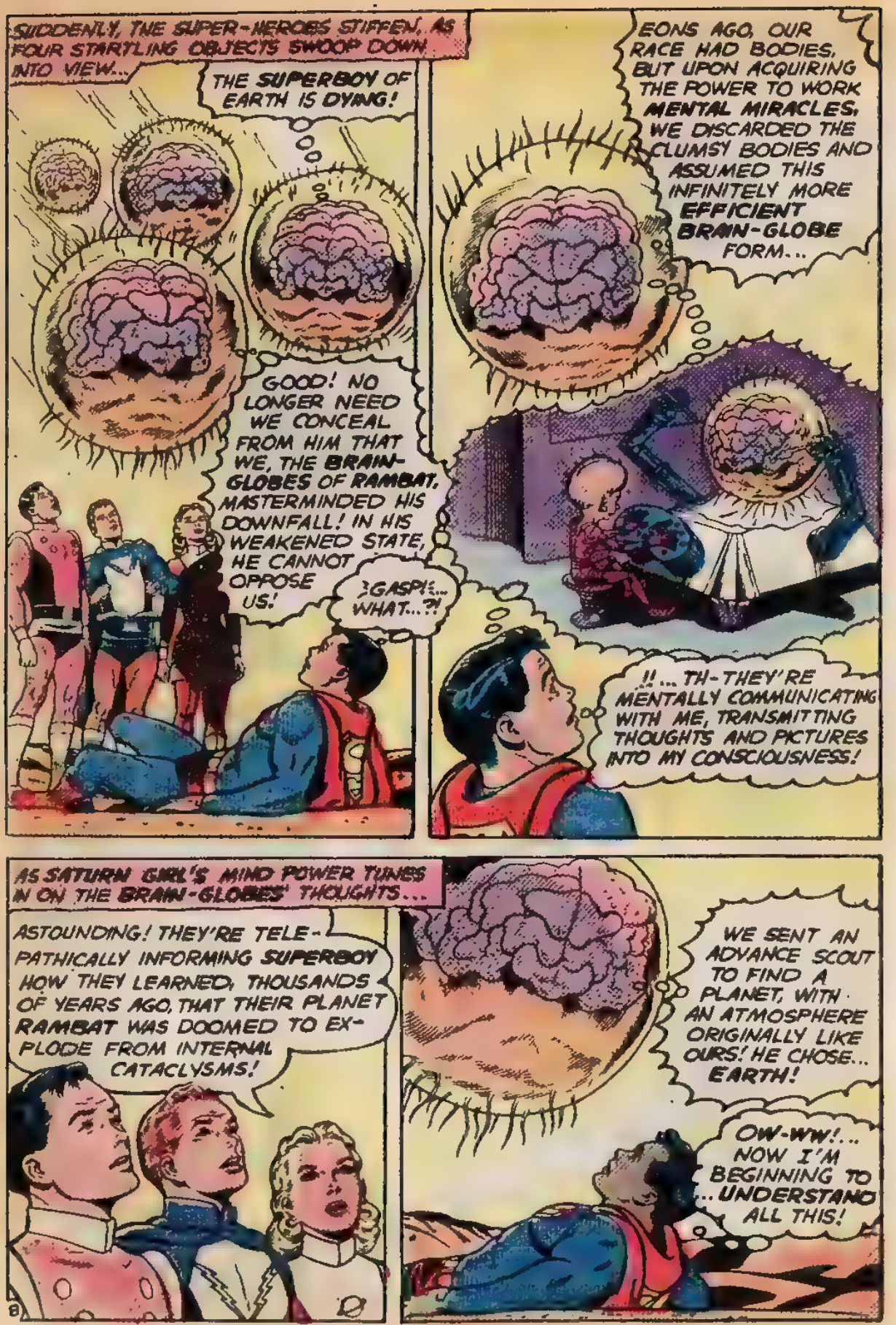

PROMPTLY, THE LEGIONNAIRES REMOVE LEAD-LIDS FROM THEIR RINGS, THEN...
OWW-WW! STOP! THOSE KRYPTONITE RAYS WILL KILL ME!
THAT'S THE IDEA!


AS SUPERBOY TUMBLES TO THE GROUND, STRICKEN...
WH-WHY ARE YOU D-DOING THIS? YOU'RE MY... FRIENDS...!!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
WE'VE ALWAYS SECRETLY HATED YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE MORE POWERFUL THAN US!
BUT THAT WON'T BE TRUE - WHEN YOU'RE DEAD!

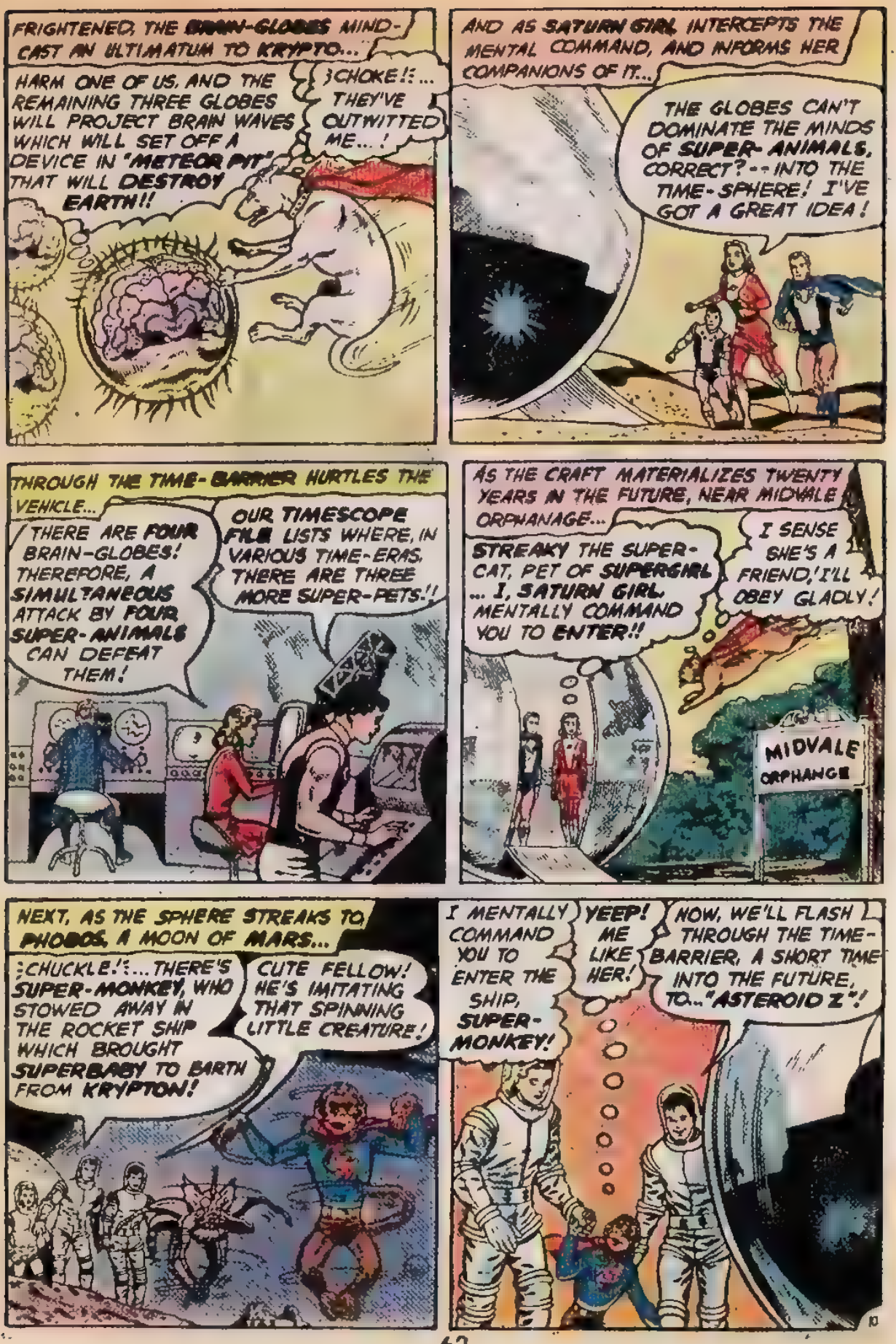

THOUGH WEAKENED, THE BOY OF STEEL WHISTLES AN ULTRASONIC NOTE...
THE WHISTLED NOTE... WILL ACTIVATE THE SUPERBOY ROBOTS IN MY SECRET ROOM, AT HOME IN... SMALLVILLE! THEY'LL... SAVE ME...

IN RESPONSE, SUPERBOY ROBOTS FLASH INTO ACTION, STREAKING THROUGH THE SECRET TUNNEL LEADING FROM THE KENT HOME, TO THE TUNNEL'S HIDDEN EXIT...
OUR SUPER VISION OBSERVES SUPERBOY'S PERIL!
WE'LL SAVE HIM FROM THOSE TRAITORS!

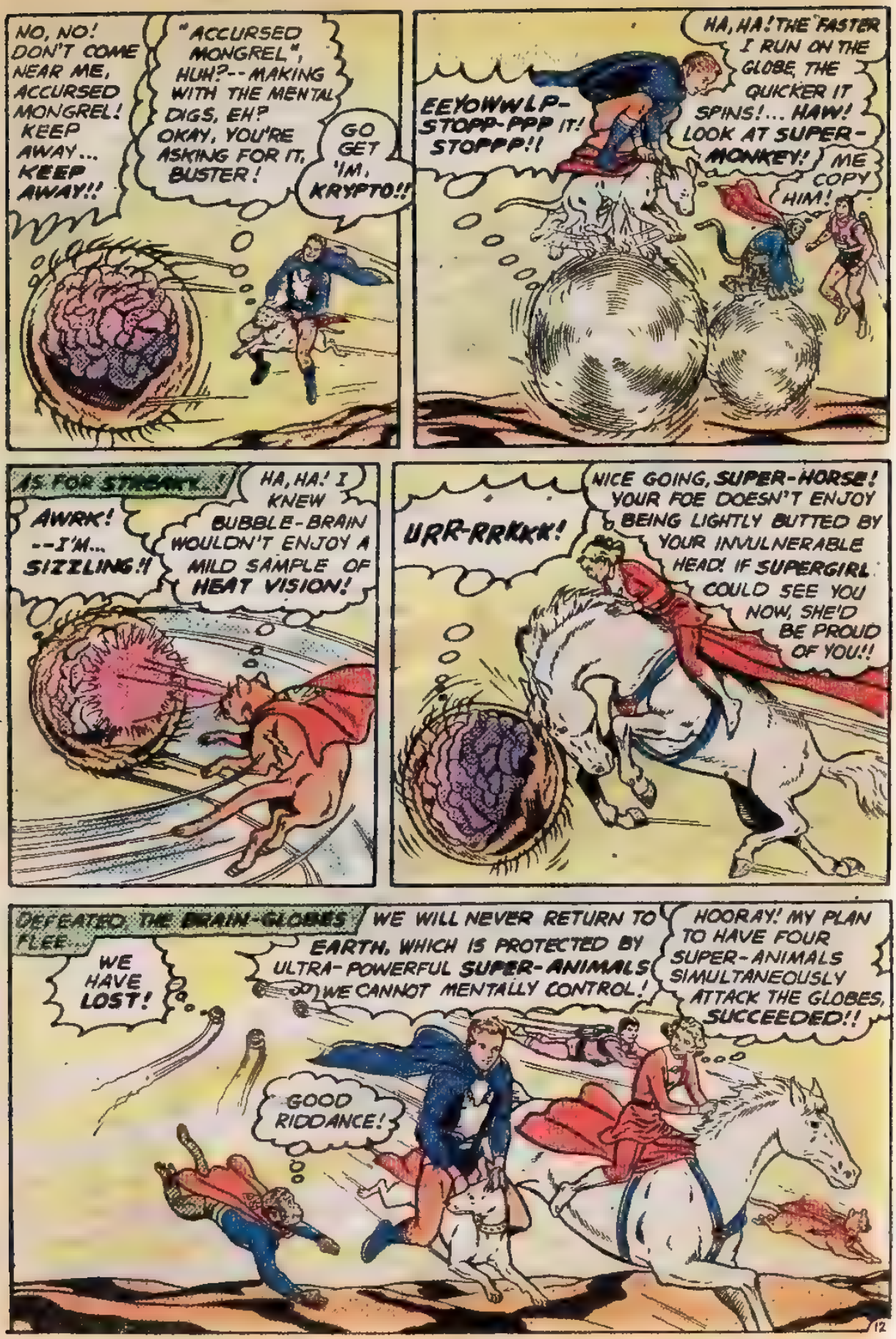

BUT AS THE BOY OF STEEL'S ROBOTS REACH THEIR MASTER...
HA, HA, HA! HOW EASILY COSMIC BOY'S MAGNETIC POWERS HAVE CAUSED THOSE METAL ROBOTS TO CRASH TOGETHER INTO A GREAT MASS OF TANGLED JUNK!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL FACE IT, SUPERBOY! NOTHING CAN SAVE YOU! YOU'RE DOOMED!!
7

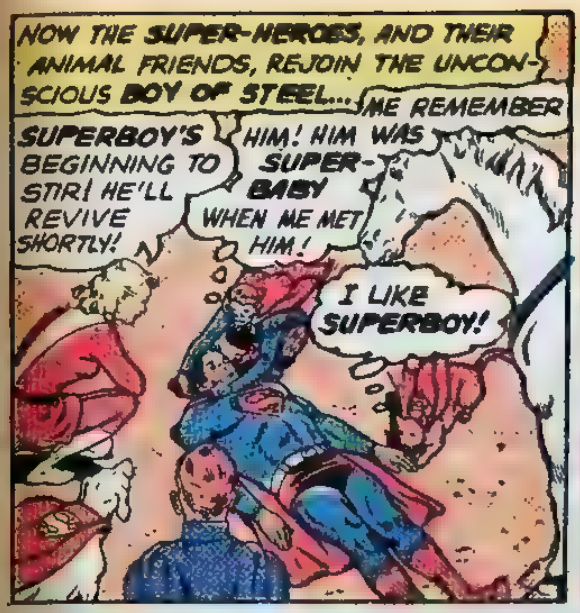

SUDDENLY, THE SUPER-HEROES STIFFEN, AS FOUR STARTLING OBJECTS SWOOP DOWN INTO VIEW...
THE SUPERBOY OF EARTH IS DYING!
GOOD! NO LONGER NEED WE CONCEAL FROM HIM THAT WE, THE BRAIN-GLOBES OF RAMBAT, MASTERMINDED HIS DOWNFALL! IN HIS WEAKENED STATE, HE CANNOT OPPOSE US!
GASP!... WHAT...?!
EONS AGO, OUR RACE HAD BODIES, BUT UPON ACQUIRING THE POWER TO WORK MENTAL MIRACLES, WE DISCARDED THE CLUMSY BODIES AND ASSUMED THIS INFINITELY MORE EFFICIENT BRAIN-GLOBE FORM...
!! ... TH-THEY'RE MENTALLY COMMUNICATING WITH ME, TRANSMITTING THOUGHTS AND PICTURES INTO MY CONSCIOUSNESS!
AS SATURN GIRL'S MIND POWER TUNES IN ON THE BRAIN-GLOBES' THOUGHTS...
ASTOUNDING! THEY'RE TELE-PATHICALLY INFORMING SUPERBOY HOW THEY LEARNED, THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, THAT THEIR PLANET RAMBAT WAS DOOMED TO EX-PLODE FROM INTERNAL CATACLYSMS!
WE SENT AN ADVANCE SCOUT TO FIND A PLANET, WITH AN ATMOSPHERE ORIGINALLY LIKE OURS! HE CHOSE... EARTH!
OW-WW!... NOW I'M BEGINNING TO ... UNDERSTAND ALL THIS!

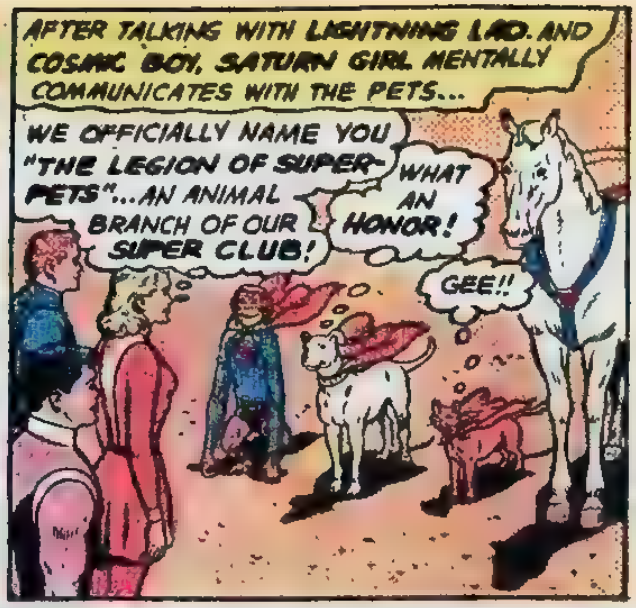
MIND-BLASTING A "METEOR PIT" INTO EXISTENCE, A FEW MILES FROM HERE, OUR SCOUT PLACED IN THE PIT'S BOTTOM A GRAVITY MECHANISM WHICH CAN MOVE YOUR WORLD THROUGH SPACE TO OUR SOLAR SYSTEM!
WE PLAN TO... STEAL EARTH!
IT IS NECESSARY FOR US TO MOVE EARTH NEAR THE SOLAR RAYS OF OUR PURPLE SUN, IN ORDER FOR US TO SURVIVE!
RAMBAT EXPLODED RECENTLY, AND WE FOUR BRAIN-GLOBES ALONE ESCAPED DESTRUCTION!
OBSERVING EARTH, WE KNEW WE COULD NOT STEAL IT UNLESS WE COULD COMPLETELY MIND-CONTROL YOU, ITS MIGHTIEST DEFENDER! FAILING, WE SUMMONED THE SUPER-HEROES FROM THE FUTURE AND FORCED THEM TO BATTLE YOU!
NOW THE BRAIN-GLOBES ARE INFORMING SUPERBOY THEY FORCED US TO PRETEND JEALOUSY, SO SUPERBOY WOULDN'T SUSPECT WE WERE MERE PAWNS!
THE ALIENS ARE SO CONFIDENT HE'S BEATEN, THEY'RE NO LONGER AFRAID TO REVEAL EVERYTHING!
THE GLOBES ARE NOW RENDERING SUPER-BOY UN-CONSCIOUS!
THEY'RE CONCEN-TRATING, GO HARD ON HIM. WE'RE RELEASED FROM THEIR CONTROL!
HERE COMES KRYPTO! HIS INSTINCT MUST HAVE SENSED SUPERBOY'S PERIL, AND LED HIM HERE!
KRYPTO REALIZES THE GLOBES ARE SUPERBOY'S ENEMIES! LOOK! THE GLOBES ARE SCATTERING, AS THOUGH IN PANIC!... WHAT ARE THE GLOBES THINKING, SATURN GIRL?!
FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, THEY CAN'T CONTROL THE MINDS OF SUPER-ANIMALS!!

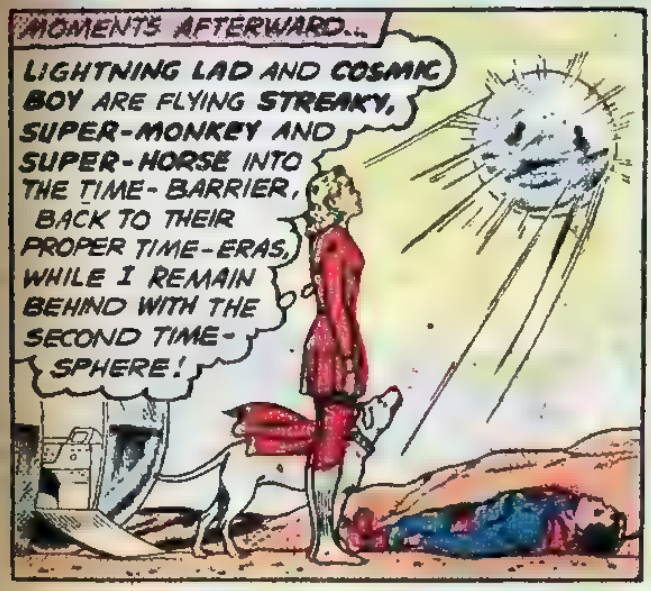

FRIGHTENED, THE BRAIN-GLOBES MIND-CAST AN ULTIMATUM TO KRYPTO...
HARM ONE OF US, AND THE REMAINING THREE GLOBES WILL PROJECT BRAIN WAVES WHICH WILL SET OFF A DEVICE IN "METEOR PIT" THAT WILL DESTROY EARTH!!
;CHOKE!:... THEY'VE OUTWITTED ME...!
AND AS SATURN GIRL INTERCEPTS THE MENTAL COMMAND, AND INFORMS HER COMPANIONS OF IT...
THE GLOBES CAN'T DOMINATE THE MINDS OF SUPER-ANIMALS, CORRECT?--INTO THE TIME-SPHERE! I'VE GOT A GREAT IDEA!
THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER HURTLES THE VEHICLE...
THERE ARE FOUR BRAIN-GLOBES! THEREFORE, A SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK BY FOUR SUPER-ANIMALS CAN DEFEAT THEM!
OUR TIMESCOPE FILE LISTS WHERE, IN VARIOUS TIME-ERAS, THERE ARE THREE MORE SUPER-PETS!!
AS THE CRAFT MATERIALIZES TWENTY YEARS IN THE FUTURE, NEAR MIDVALE ORPHANAGE...
STREAKY THE SUPER-CAT, PET OF SUPERGIRL ... I, SATURN GIRL, MENTALLY COMMAND YOU TO ENTER!!
I SENSE SHE'S A FRIEND, I'LL OBEY GLADLY!
MIDVALE ORPHANGE
NEXT, AS THE SPHERE STREAKS TO PHOBOS, A MOON OF MARS...
;CHUCKLE!:... THERE'S SUPER-MONKEY, WHO STOWED AWAY IN THE ROCKET SHIP WHICH BROUGHT SUPERBABY TO EARTH FROM KRYPTON!
CUTE FELLOW! HE'S IMITATING THAT SPINNING LITTLE CREATURE!
I MENTALLY COMMAND YOU TO ENTER THE SHIP, SUPER-MONKEY!
YEEP! ME LIKE HER!
NOW, WE'LL FLASH THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER, A SHORT TIME INTO THE FUTURE, TO..."ASTEROID Z"!

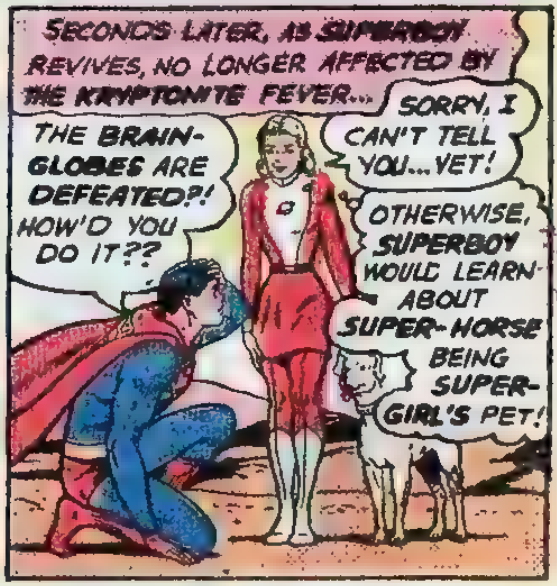
AFTER THE TRIP THROUGH TIME...
OUR TELESCOPIC-VIEWER SHOWS SUPER-GIRL LEAVING HER PET SUPER-HORSE AT ITS CORRAL ON "ASTEROID Z", FOLLOWING ONE OF HER MISSIONS IN SPACE!
YES, READERS! THIS IS A PREVIEW GLIMPSE OF A SUPER-PET SUPERGIRL WILL OWN SOME DAY IN THE FUTURE!
PRESENTLY...
ENTER, SUPER-HORSE! ...THAT IS MY COMMAND!
IT'S OBEYING! NOW TO TRANSPORT THE SUPER-PETS BACK TO SUPERBOY'S TIME-ERA!
BACK IN THE BOY OF STEEL'S TIME-ERA, THE BRAIN-GLOBES STREAK ABOVE "METEOR PIT", THEN...
OUR MENTAL MIGHT IS SETTING OFF THE MECHANISM IN THE PIT!
SOON, EARTH WILL BEGIN TRAVELLING TO OUR SOLAR SYSTEM!
SUDDENLY, THE TIME-SPHERE MATERIALIZES, AND ITS PASSENGERS EMERGE...
SUPER-PETS, I ORDER YOU TO ATTACK THE EVIL BRAIN-GLOBES!
I WANT TO GET IN ON THIS, TOO!
AND NOW ENSUES ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING BATTLES THIS PLANET HAS EVER SEEN, AS THE SUPER-HEROES JOIN THE SUPER-PETS IN ATTACKING THE ALIENS...
URK!... AN ARMY OF... SUPER-ANIMALS!
CHARGE!!
LET'S GO, GANG!!
;GROAN!!... W-WE CAN'T CONTROL THEIR MINDS!!

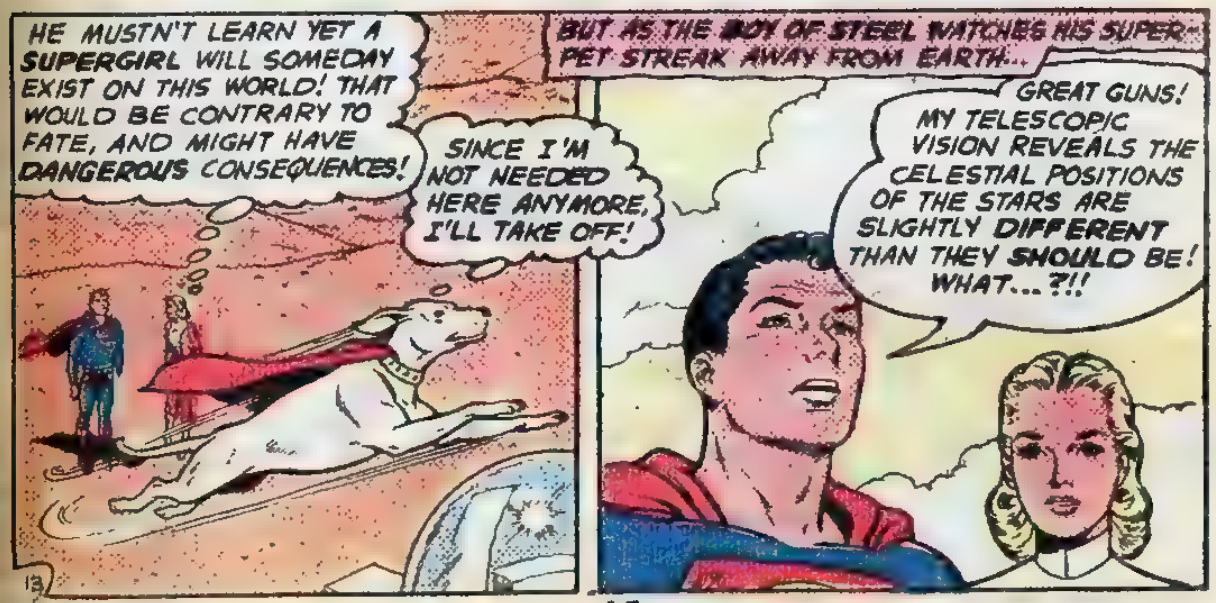

NO, NO! DON'T COME NEAR ME, ACCURSED MONGREL! KEEP AWAY... KEEP AWAY!!
"ACCURSED MONGREL", HUH?--MAKING WITH THE MENTAL DIGS, EH? OKAY, YOU'RE ASKING FOR IT, BUSTER!
GO GET 'IM, KRYPTO!!
EEYOWWLP-STOPP-PPP IT! STOPPP!!
HA, HA! THE FASTER I RUN ON THE GLOBE, THE QUICKER IT SPINS!... HAW! LOOK AT SUPER-MONKEY!
ME COPY HIM!
AS FOR STREAKY...
AWRK! --I'M... SIZZLING!!
HA, HA! I KNEW BUBBLE-BRAIN WOULDN'T ENJOY A MILD SAMPLE OF HEAT VISION!
URR-RRKKK!
NICE GOING, SUPER-HORSE! YOUR FOE DOESN'T ENJOY BEING LIGHTLY BUTTED BY YOUR INVULNERABLE HEAD! IF SUPERGIRL COULD SEE YOU NOW, SHE'D BE PROUD OF YOU!!
DEFEATED THE BRAIN-GLOBES FLEE...
WE HAVE LOST!
WE WILL NEVER RETURN TO EARTH, WHICH IS PROTECTED BY ULTRA-POWERFUL SUPER-ANIMALS WE CANNOT MENTALLY CONTROL!
HOORAY! MY PLAN TO HAVE FOUR SUPER-ANIMALS SIMULTANEOUSLY ATTACK THE GLOBES, SUCCEEDED!!
GOOD RIDDANCE!
12


NOW THE SUPER-HEROES, AND THEIR ANIMAL FRIENDS, REJOIN THE UNCONSCIOUS BOY OF STEEL...
SUPERBOY'S BEGINNING TO STIR! HE'LL REVIVE SHORTLY!
ME REMEMBER HIM! HIM WAS SUPER-BABY WHEN ME MET HIM!
I LIKE SUPERBOY!


AFTER TALKING WITH LIGHTNING LAD AND COSMIC BOY, SATURN GIRL MENTALLY COMMUNICATES WITH THE PETS...
WE OFFICIALLY NAME YOU "THE LEGION OF SUPER-PETS"...AN ANIMAL BRANCH OF OUR SUPER CLUB!
WHAT AN HONOR!
GEE!!


MOMENTS AFTERWARD...
LIGHTNING LAD AND COSMIC BOY ARE FLYING STREAKY, SUPER-MONKEY AND SUPER-HORSE INTO THE TIME-BARRIER, BACK TO THEIR PROPER TIME-ERAS, WHILE I REMAIN BEHIND WITH THE SECOND TIME-SPHERE!


SECONDS LATER, AS SUPERBOY REVIVES, NO LONGER AFFECTED BY THE KRYPTONITE FEVER...
THE BRAIN-GLOBES ARE DEFEATED?! HOW'D YOU DO IT??
SORRY, I CAN'T TELL YOU...YET!
OTHERWISE, SUPERBOY WOULD LEARN ABOUT SUPER-HORSE BEING SUPER-GIRL'S PET!


HE MUSTN'T LEARN YET A SUPERGIRL WILL SOMEDAY EXIST ON THIS WORLD! THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO FATE, AND MIGHT HAVE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES!
SINCE I'M NOT NEEDED HERE ANYMORE, I'LL TAKE OFF!
BUT AS THE BOY OF STEEL WATCHES HIS SUPER-PET STREAK AWAY FROM EARTH...
GREAT GUNS! MY TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS THE CELESTIAL POSITIONS OF THE STARS ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT THAN THEY SHOULD BE! WHAT...?!!

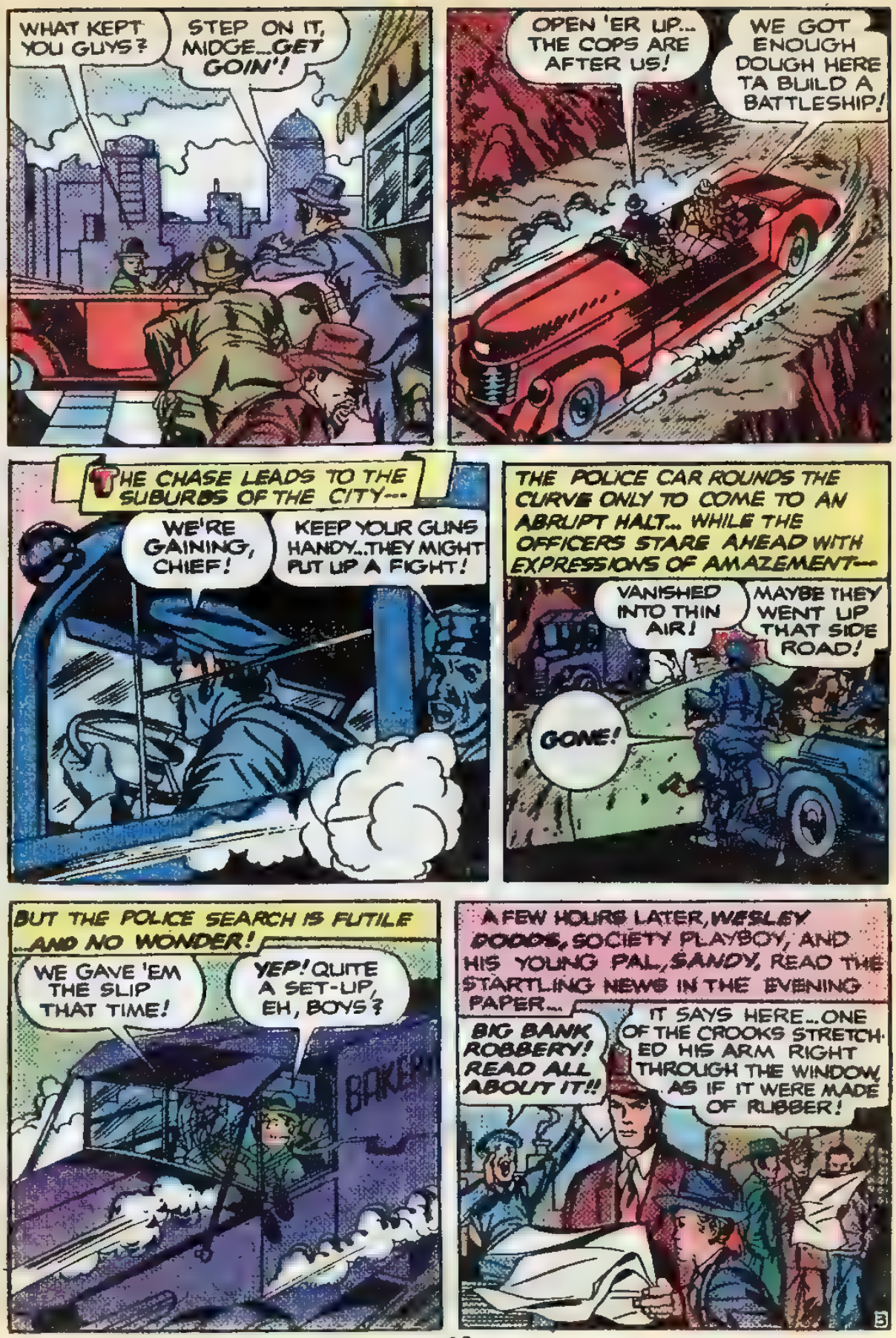
REALIZING THE EXPLANATION, SUPERBOY HURTLES INTO ACTION...
EARTH HAS BEGUN TO MOVE OFF ITS USUAL ORBIT! FIRST, I'LL DESTROY THE BRAIN-GLOBES' WORLD-MOVING GRAVITY MECHANISM DOWN IN "METEOR PIT", WITH A BLAST OF HEAT VISION!
HURTLING OFF INTO OUTER-SPACE, THE MOST POWERFUL YOUTH IN THE UNIVERSE PERFORMS AN ASTOUNDING FEAT OF HURCULEAN STRENGTH...
I'M BLOWING EARTH BACK INTO ITS PROPER ORBIT! NOW CALENDARS AND CLOCKS WON'T BE INCORRECT!
AS THE BOY OF STEEL REJOINS SATURN GIRL...
WELL DONE, SUPERBOY!... NOW I MUST REJOIN MY COMRADES, IN THE FUTURE! I'M SORRY THE BRAIN-GLOBES FORCED THE SUPER-HEROES TO ACT LIKE TRAITORS!
I UNDERSTAND...!
SHE'S VANISHING INTO THE TIME-BARRIER WITH HER VEHICLE!... HMM!... WILL I EVER KNOW HOW THE SUPER-HEROES DEFEATED THE BRAIN-GLOBES?
LATER, AS SUPERBOY RETURNS HOME...
AFTER I TELL POLICE CHIEF PARKER MY STORY, HE'LL ANNOUNCE I ATTACKED THAT STRICKEN PLANE WHILE UNDER THE GLOBES' SINISTER INFLUENCE!
YOU CAN LEARN HOW THE BRAIN-GLOBES WERE VANQUISHED, SON...
...BY TRAVELING INTO THE PAST, OR BY OVERTAKING LIGHT-RAYS FROM EARTH, IN SPACE!
TRUE! BUT... I WON'T! THERE MUST BE A VERY GOOD REASON WHY SATURN GIRL WOULDN'T TELL ME!
COMING SOON! AN AMAZING STORY FEATURING "THE LEGION OF SUPER-PETS"! - DON'T MISS IT!!
14

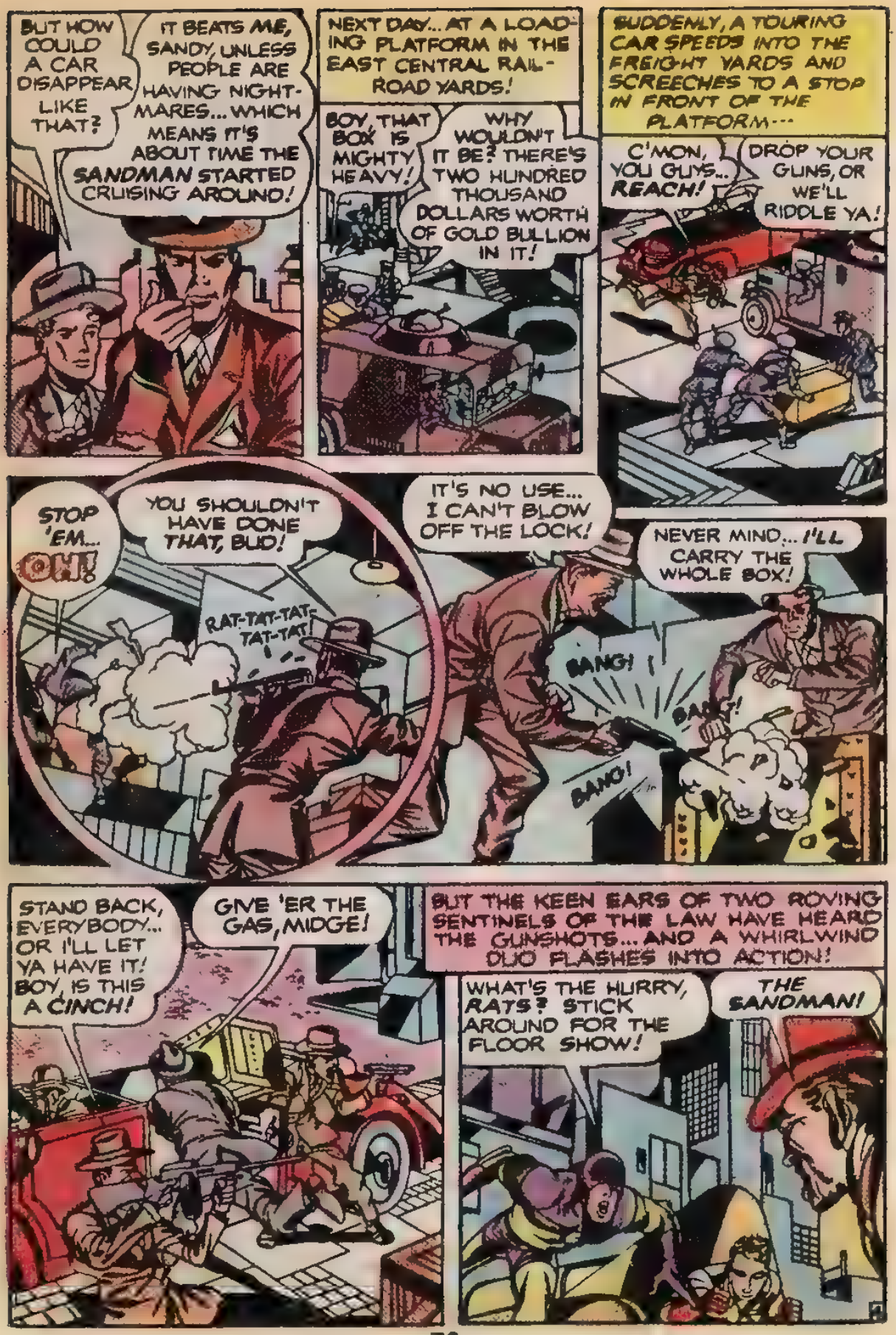
# The SANDMAN

## CRIME CARNIVAL!

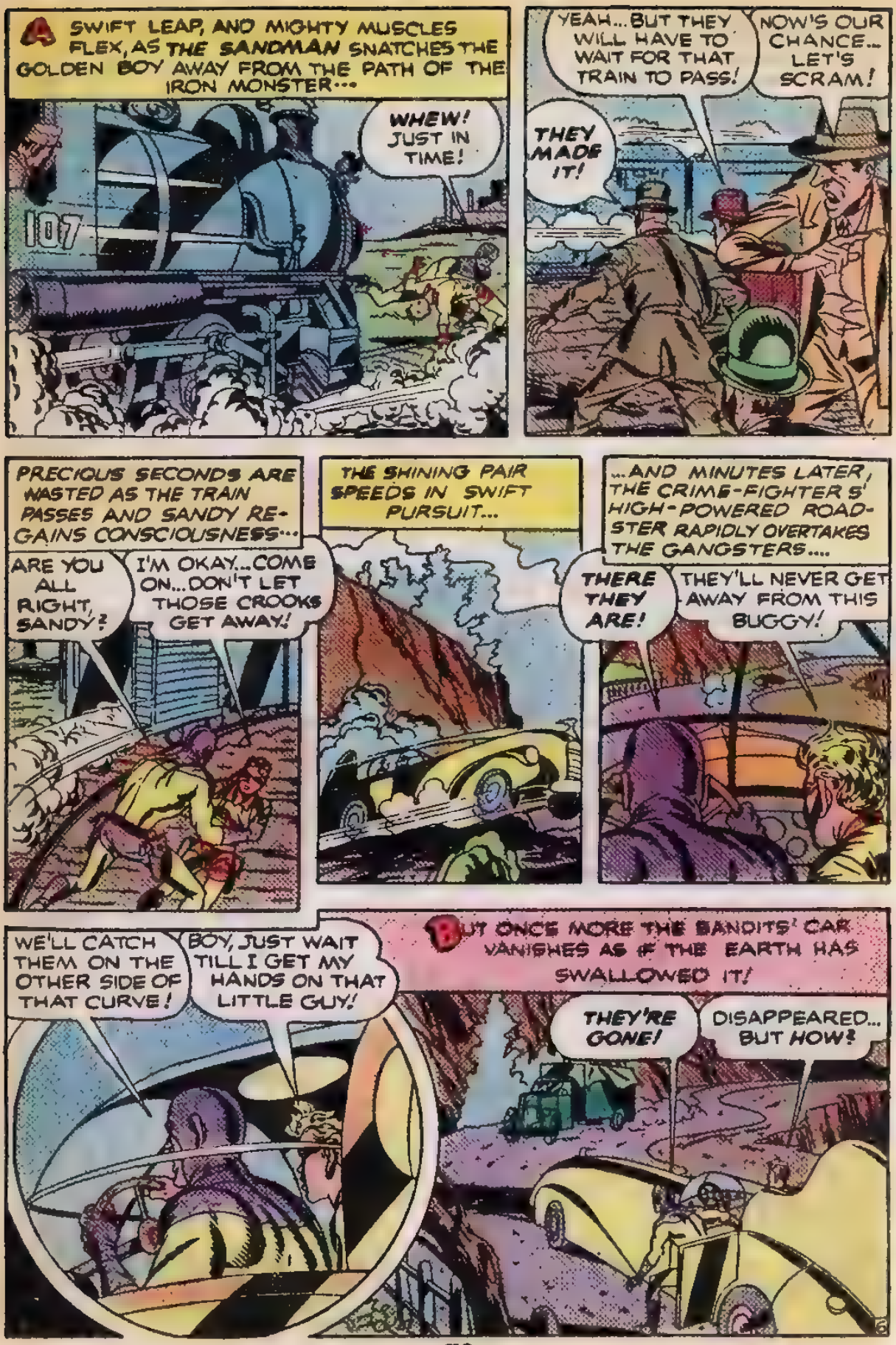
HOW COULD AN AUTOMOBILE VANISH INTO THIN AIR? IT COULD BE A DREAM, A QUIRK OF THE IMAGINATION...BUT A WELL-KNOWN AUTHORITY ON NIGHTMARES KNEW THAT THIS WAS NOT THE ANSWER! WE REFER, OF COURSE, TO THAT CHAMPION OF JUSTICE, *THE SANDMAN*, WHO WAS WIDE AWAKE WHEN THE MOST AUDACIOUS AND RECKLESS CAMPAIGN IN CRIMINAL HISTORY WAS LAUNCHED...IN BROAD DAYLIGHT! SO WATCH THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE SPIN, AS SANDMAN AND SANDY EMBARK ON A MERRY-GO-ROUND OF BAFFLING MYSTERY AND PERILOUS MENACE!

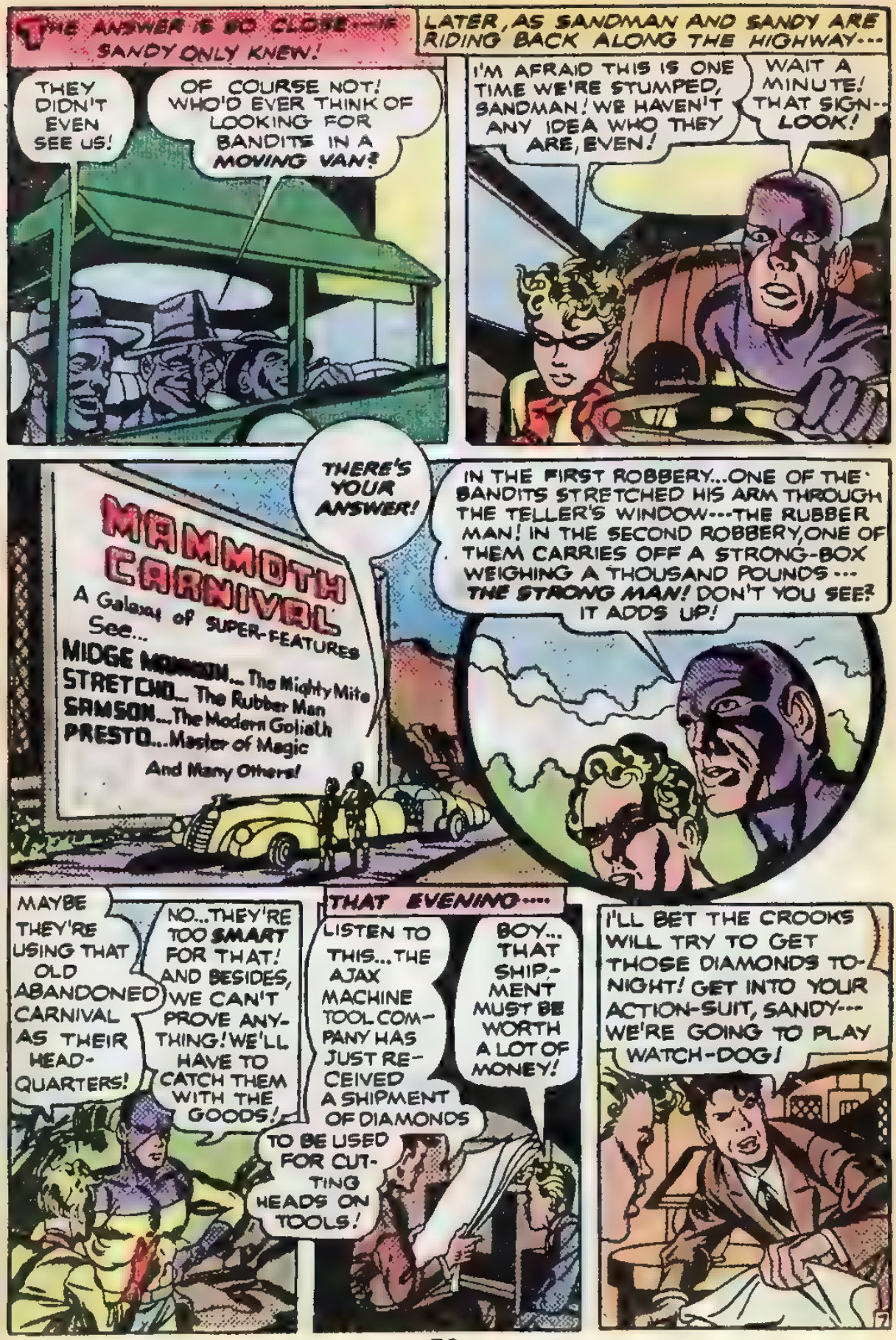
A LARGE BANK IN THE BUSINESS SECTION OF THE CITY---
THIS IS A STICK-UP! REACH!!
DON'T NOBODY MOVE...OR I'LL BLAST YA!
C'MON, OPEN UP!
I...I CAN'T OPEN THE DOOR WITHOUT SETTING OFF THE ALARM!
HAND OVER THE MONEY THEN...AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!
TAKE THIS TYPEWRITER ---I'LL GET TH' DOUGH!
WHA ...?
SEE? THERE'S NOTHING TO IT!
SHAKE IT UP, STRETCH... WE'RE WASTING TIME!
ONE OF THE BANDITS RAISES HIS HAND IN A MYSTERIOUS GESTURE...
BOY! THIS IS EASY PICKINGS!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, EVERYBODY... PRESTO! ALAAM!
...AND THE BANK IS FILLED WITH BLINDING, ACRID SMOKE...
C'MON, BOYS... LET'S SCRAM! HA! HA! HA!
COUGH!
COUGH!
COUGH!

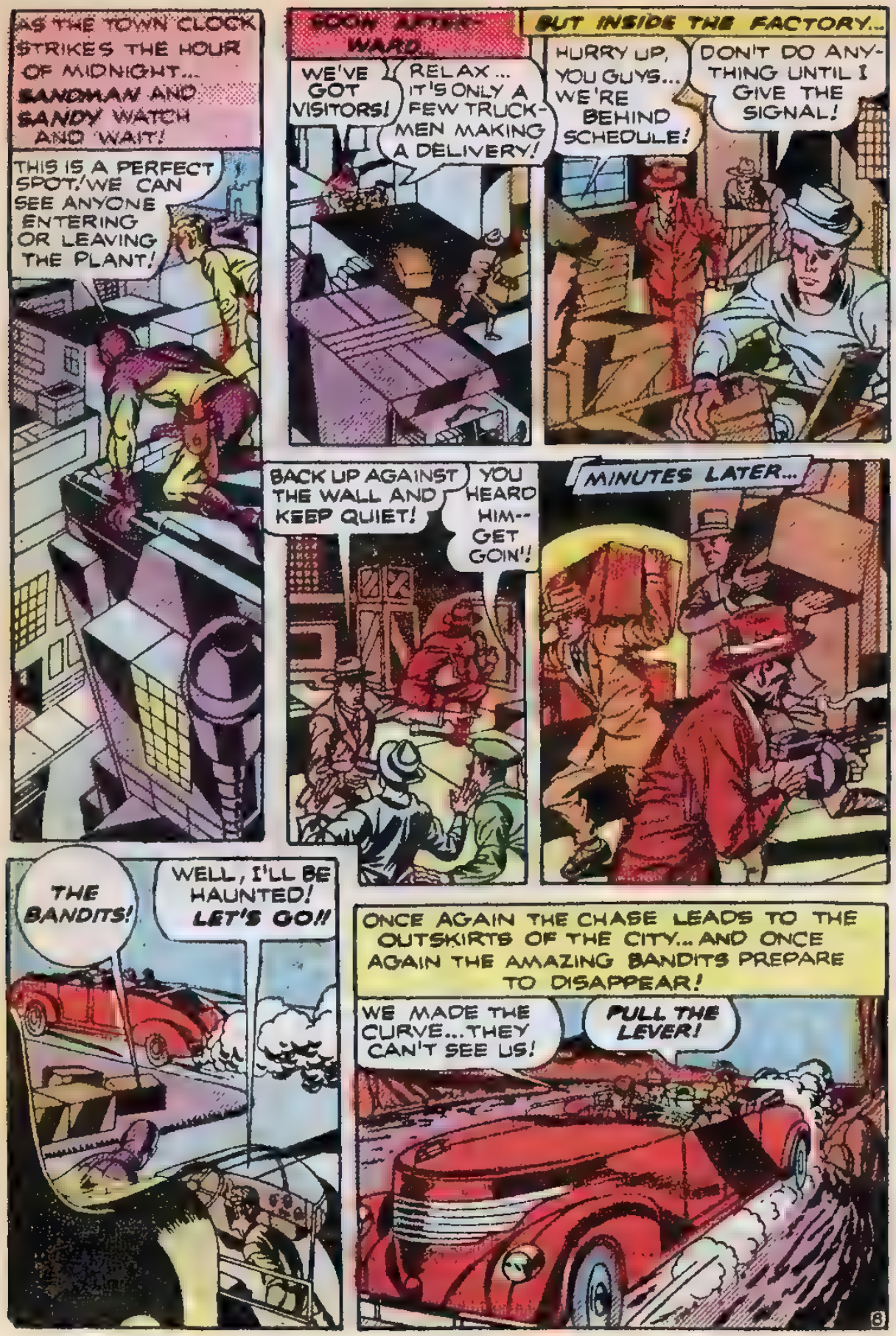

WHAT KEPT YOU GUYS?
STEP ON IT, MIDGE...GET GOIN'!
OPEN 'ER UP... THE COPS ARE AFTER US!
WE GOT ENOUGH DOUGH HERE TA BUILD A BATTLESHIP!
THE CHASE LEADS TO THE SUBURBS OF THE CITY---
WE'RE GAINING, CHIEF!
KEEP YOUR GUNS HANDY..THEY MIGHT PUT UP A FIGHT!
THE POLICE CAR ROUNDS THE CURVE ONLY TO COME TO AN ABRUPT HALT... WHILE THE OFFICERS STARE AHEAD WITH EXPRESSIONS OF AMAZEMENT---
VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!
MAYBE THEY WENT UP THAT SIDE ROAD!
GONE!
BUT THE POLICE SEARCH IS FUTILE ...AND NO WONDER!
WE GAVE 'EM THE SLIP THAT TIME!
YEP! QUITE A SET-UP, EH, BOYS?
BAKER!
A FEW HOURS LATER, WESLEY DODDS, SOCIETY PLAYBOY, AND HIS YOUNG PAL, SANDY, READ THE STARTLING NEWS IN THE EVENING PAPER...
BIG BANK ROBBERY! READ ALL ABOUT IT!!
IT SAYS HERE...ONE OF THE CROOKS STRETCHED HIS ARM RIGHT THROUGH THE WINDOW, AS IF IT WERE MADE OF RUBBER!
3


BUT HOW COULD A CAR DISAPPEAR LIKE THAT?
IT BEATS ME, SANDY, UNLESS PEOPLE ARE HAVING NIGHTMARES... WHICH MEANS IT'S ABOUT TIME THE SANDMAN STARTED CRUISING AROUND!
NEXT DAY... AT A LOADING PLATFORM IN THE EAST CENTRAL RAILROAD YARDS!
BOY, THAT BOX IS MIGHTY HEAVY!
WHY WOULDN'T IT BE? THERE'S TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF GOLD BULLION IN IT!
SUDDENLY, A TOURING CAR SPEEDS INTO THE FREIGHT YARDS AND SCREECHES TO A STOP IN FRONT OF THE PLATFORM---
C'MON, YOU GUYS... REACH!
DROP YOUR GUNS, OR WE'LL RIDDLE YA!
STOP 'EM... OH!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, BUD!
RAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT!
IT'S NO USE... I CAN'T BLOW OFF THE LOCK!
NEVER MIND... I'LL CARRY THE WHOLE BOX!
BANG!
BANG!
STAND BACK, EVERYBODY... OR I'LL LET YA HAVE IT! BOY, IS THIS A CINCH!
GIVE 'ER THE GAS, MIDGE!
BUT THE KEEN EARS OF TWO ROVING SENTINELS OF THE LAW HAVE HEARD THE GUNSHOTS... AND A WHIRLWIND DUO FLASHES INTO ACTION!
WHAT'S THE HURRY, RATS? STICK AROUND FOR THE FLOOR SHOW!
THE SANDMAN!

I'LL CRUSH YOUR SKULL, WISE GUY!
HAVE A DREAM... WITH MY COMPLIMENTS!
DON'T SWALLOW YOUR CIGAR, SHORTY!
ULP!
AS SANDY DODGES THE MIDGET'S COUNTER BLOW...HE TRIPS AND FALLS TO THE TRACK...
I'LL MURDER YOU FOR THAT!
UH!
...AS A LOCOMOTIVE, WHISTLE SCREAMING, THUNDERS INTO THE YARDS!
THE FLYER! THIS'LL FINISH HIM OFF!
JUST A BIG PUNCHING BAG....WH-WHA... SANDY!!
GREAT SCOTT! HE'LL BE KILLED!


A SWIFT LEAP, AND MIGHTY MUSCLES FLEX, AS THE SANDMAN SNATCHES THE GOLDEN BOY AWAY FROM THE PATH OF THE IRON MONSTER...
WHEW! JUST IN TIME!
107
YEAH... BUT THEY WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THAT TRAIN TO PASS!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE... LET'S SCRAM!
THEY MADE IT!
PRECIOUS SECONDS ARE WASTED AS THE TRAIN PASSES AND SANDY REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SANDY?
I'M OKAY... COME ON... DON'T LET THOSE CROOKS GET AWAY!
THE SHINING PAIR SPEEDS IN SWIFT PURSUIT...
...AND MINUTES LATER, THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S HIGH-POWERED ROADSTER RAPIDLY OVERTAKES THE GANGSTERS....
THERE THEY ARE!
THEY'LL NEVER GET AWAY FROM THIS BUGGY!
WE'LL CATCH THEM ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT CURVE!
BOY, JUST WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT LITTLE GUY!
BUT ONCE MORE THE BANDITS' CAR VANISHES AS IF THE EARTH HAS SWALLOWED IT!
THEY'RE GONE!
DISAPPEARED... BUT HOW?


THE ANSWER IS SO CLOSE---IF SANDY ONLY KNEW!
THEY DIDN'T EVEN SEE US!
OF COURSE NOT! WHO'D EVER THINK OF LOOKING FOR BANDITS IN A MOVING VAN?
LATER, AS SANDMAN AND SANDY ARE RIDING BACK ALONG THE HIGHWAY---
I'M AFRAID THIS IS ONE TIME WE'RE STUMPED, SANDMAN! WE HAVEN'T ANY IDEA WHO THEY ARE, EVEN!
WAIT A MINUTE! THAT SIGN--LOOK!
THERE'S YOUR ANSWER!
MAMMOTH CARNIVAL
A Galaxy of SUPER-FEATURES
See...
MIDGE MORGAN... The Mighty Mite
STRETCHO... The Rubber Man
SAMSON... The Modern Goliath
PRESTO... Master of Magic
And Many Others!
IN THE FIRST ROBBERY...ONE OF THE BANDITS STRETCHED HIS ARM THROUGH THE TELLER'S WINDOW---THE RUBBER MAN! IN THE SECOND ROBBERY, ONE OF THEM CARRIES OFF A STRONG-BOX WEIGHING A THOUSAND POUNDS --- THE STRONG MAN! DON'T YOU SEE? IT ADDS UP!
MAYBE THEY'RE USING THAT OLD ABANDONED CARNIVAL AS THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS!
NO...THEY'RE TOO SMART FOR THAT! AND BESIDES, WE CAN'T PROVE ANY-THING! WE'LL HAVE TO CATCH THEM WITH THE GOODS!
THAT EVENING....
LISTEN TO THIS...THE AJAX MACHINE TOOL COM-PANY HAS JUST RE-CEIVED A SHIPMENT OF DIAMONDS TO BE USED FOR CUT-TING HEADS ON TOOLS!
BOY... THAT SHIP-MENT MUST BE WORTH A LOT OF MONEY!
I'LL BET THE CROOKS WILL TRY TO GET THOSE DIAMONDS TO-NIGHT! GET INTO YOUR ACTION-SUIT, SANDY--- WE'RE GOING TO PLAY WATCH-DOG!


AS THE TOWN CLOCK STRIKES THE HOUR OF MIDNIGHT... SANDMAN AND SANDY WATCH AND WAIT!
THIS IS A PERFECT SPOT! WE CAN SEE ANYONE ENTERING OR LEAVING THE PLANT!
SOON AFTER--
WARD...
WE'VE GOT VISITORS!
RELAX... IT'S ONLY A FEW TRUCKMEN MAKING A DELIVERY!
BUT INSIDE THE FACTORY...
HURRY UP, YOU GUYS... WE'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE!
DON'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL I GIVE THE SIGNAL!
BACK UP AGAINST THE WALL AND KEEP QUIET!
YOU HEARD HIM-- GET GOIN'!
MINUTES LATER...
THE BANDITS!
WELL, I'LL BE HAUNTED! LET'S GO!!
ONCE AGAIN THE CHASE LEADS TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY... AND ONCE AGAIN THE AMAZING BANDITS PREPARE TO DISAPPEAR!
WE MADE THE CURVE... THEY CAN'T SEE US!
PULL THE LEVER!
8

...AND NOW WE SEE THE MECHANICS OF THAT BAFFLING VANISHING ACT, AS FALSE SIDES SLIP INTO PLACE FROM BENEATH THE BODY OF THE CAR, CONVERTING IT, THIS TIME, INTO A TRUCK!
PUT ON YOUR DISGUISES... AND NO WISE CRACKS!
THEY'RE GONE! LOOKS LIKE THEY GAVE US THE SLIP AGAIN!
I'M NOT SO SURE! THAT LOOKS LIKE THE GETAWAY CAR USED IN THE SECOND ROBBERY--ONLY IT'S A DIFFERENT COLOR! HMM.... I THINK I UNDERSTAND NOW!
I COULD SWEAR THAT LITTLE KID WAS SMOKING A CIGAR!
THERE'S ONE WAY OF FINDING OUT!
A STEEL-LIKE STRAND WHIPS OUT FROM THE WIREPOON GUN— AND A BARBED TIP THUDS INTO A TIRE—
HEY! WE'VE GOT A FLAT TIRE!
CAN WE GIVE YOU A HAND?
NO, THANKS... IT'S ONLY A FLAT!
WHY..THE LITTLE BOY NEEDS A SHAVE... AND THERE'S A CIGAR IN HIS POCKET! HOW SHOCKING!
HEY!!! WHAT'S THE IDEA?
WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT THIS LEVER IS FOR?
THEY'RE WISE TO US! GET 'EM!

THIS TIME I'LL FINISH YOU!
LOOK OUT, SANDMAN!
NOT SO FAST, SAMSON!
YEOW!
DIDN'T YOUR MOTHER EVER TELL YOU NOT TO PLAY WITH GUNS, LITTLE BOY?
LET'S GET TOGETHER, BOYS --- FOR A NICE LONG STRETCH!
WELL, MIDGE ...IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR CRIME CARNIVAL IS OVER... HERE COME THE POLICE!
I GUESS IT WASN'T SUCH A GOOD RACKET AFTER ALL!
ISN'T THIS THE CARNIVAL MOB THAT BROKE UP A WHILE AGO?
SURE, AND IT IS! FROM BIG TOP TO BIG HOUSE.. THAT'S A NEW ONE!
JOIN SANDMAN AND SANDY, THE GOLDEN BOY---AS THEY SKYROCKET THROUGH ANOTHER BREATH-TAKING ADVENTURE IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF
ADVENTURE COMICS!

SPECTRE
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
STAGE MAGICIAN DIRK RAWLEY HAD A GOOD THING GOING FOR HIM! WHILE PERFORMING BEFORE AN AUDIENCE, THEY SUPPLIED HIM WITH A PERFECT ALIBI FOR THE ROBBERIES SIMULTANEOUSLY BEING COMMITTED OFF-STAGE BY-- HIS OTHER SELF!
AND WHILE DETECTIVE JIM CORRIGAN RAN UP AGAINST A STONE WALL TRYING TO SOLVE THE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES", HIS OWN SPECTRAL SELF RAN HEADLONG INTO THE THIEF-- ONLY TO FALL VICTIM TO HIS EERIE POWERS!
STORY BY: GARDNER FOX
ART BY: NEAL ADAMS
COLORIST: JERRY SERPE
DIE SPECTRE--AGAIN!

FOOTFALLS ARE A LONELY SOUND ON A DESERTED STREET IN GATE-WAY CITY--WHEN THE OTHER-WISE SILENT NIGHT IS SHATTERED BY...
THIS IS A STICK-UP! HAND OVER YOUR VALUABLES OR I SHOOT--
SHOOT WITH WHAT? YOU DON'T HAVE A GUN!
YOU WANT A GUN?
ARESTO! YOU HAVE A GUN!
KLUNK
SWIFT AS IS THE ACTION OF THE POWERFUL HOLD-OUT SPRING THAT SHOOTS THE GUN INTO THE HAND OF THE HOLD-UP MAN--EVEN SWIFTER IS THE HAND OF HIS VICTIM AS...
CHONK
IF YOU MAKE LIKE A MAGICIAN, SO CAN I!
SEE? MY HAND IS QUICKER THAN YOUR GUN!
A HAND STABS THROUGH THE AIR AT THE FLYING GUN--AND TO COMPLETE THE TURN-ABOUT, IT IS THE WOULD-BE ROBBER WHO IS NOW MENACED...
Y-YOU GOING TO SH-SHOOT ME--?!
SUDDENLY--THERE IS A BURST OF BRILLIANCE--FOLLOWED BY A GLOVED FIST STRIKING FROM BEHIND...
WHUPP
OHHH!

THAT MAN--DRESSED EXACTLY AS I AM...
...EXCEPT--HE--HAS--NO--FACE!!
LOOK UPON ME CLOSELY, DIRK RAWLEY!
WHO--WHAT--ARE YOU?
AS THE DAZED DIRK RAWLEY STARES IN STARK AMAZEMENT--HE SEES A SLOW CHANGE COME UPON THE FEATURELESS FLATNESS OF HIS RESCUER'S "FACE"..
GAZE UPON MY BLANK FACE--GIVE ME AN IDENTITY--AND YOU'LL SEE WHO I AM!
YOU'RE--ME! BUT--HOW--
I AM YOUR ETHERIC SELF, DIRK RAWLEY!
YOUR EMOTIONAL STATE--BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE INTENSE FEAR OF BEING KILLED--HAS AT LONG LAST RELEASED THE ETHERIC BODY WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF YOU!
I BREATHE! I LIVE!
FAREWELL FOR NOW, DIRK RAWLEY! I GO TO THE ANCIENT, DEMON-HAUNTED TOWN OF ARKHAM--TO BATHE IN THE EVIL EMANATIONS WHICH FORM A VICIOUS VORTEX THERE, AND GATHER STRENGTH!
BUT--WE SHALL MEET--AGAIN!
3

SOME NIGHTS LATER, THE GREAT VAULT OF A GATEWAY CITY BANK IS LOOTED--- FOLLOWED BY THE THEFT OF THE FABULOUS SOAMES GEM COLLECTION FROM A SEALED CHEST, WITHOUT BREAKING THE SEALS...

THERE IS NO WAY FOR THE VAULT TO HAVE BEEN OPENED BEFORE THE TIME-MECHANISM RELEASED THE BOLTS! THE THEFT COULDN'T HAVE TAKEN PLACE--BUT IT DID!

THE CHEST WAS SEALED WITH WAX! AND THOUGH THE WAX WAS UNBROKEN--THE JEWELS WERE SOMEHOW TAKEN OUT OF IT!

ASSIGNED TO COVER THESE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES", DETECTIVE-CAPTAIN JIM CORRIGAN IS STYMIED AT EVERY TURN...

THE GEMS HAVE BEEN STOLEN--WHICH MEANS THERE HAD TO BE A THIEF! IT'S UP TO THE POLICE TO FIND HIM!

NOT A CLUE! ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO GO ON!

TO CAPTAIN CORRIGAN'S REGULAR POLICE DUTIES HAS BEEN ADDED THE ASSIGNMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ANNUAL POLICEMAN'S BALL...

IT'LL BE A RELIEF TO TAKE A BREAK FROM THAT CASE! AN EVENING WITH MONA--AND I'LL GET A FRESH START IN THE MORNING!

OUT OF THE NIGHT SWOOPS THE SPIRIT SLEUTH--THAT GHOSTLY GUARDIAN OF GOODNESS, HE WHO FIGHTS EVIL AND INJUSTICE ACROSS A WORLD--THE SPECTRE!...

WELL...WELCOME HOME!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE OFF ON A CASE OF YOUR OWN... WITH THE JUSTICE SOCIETY!

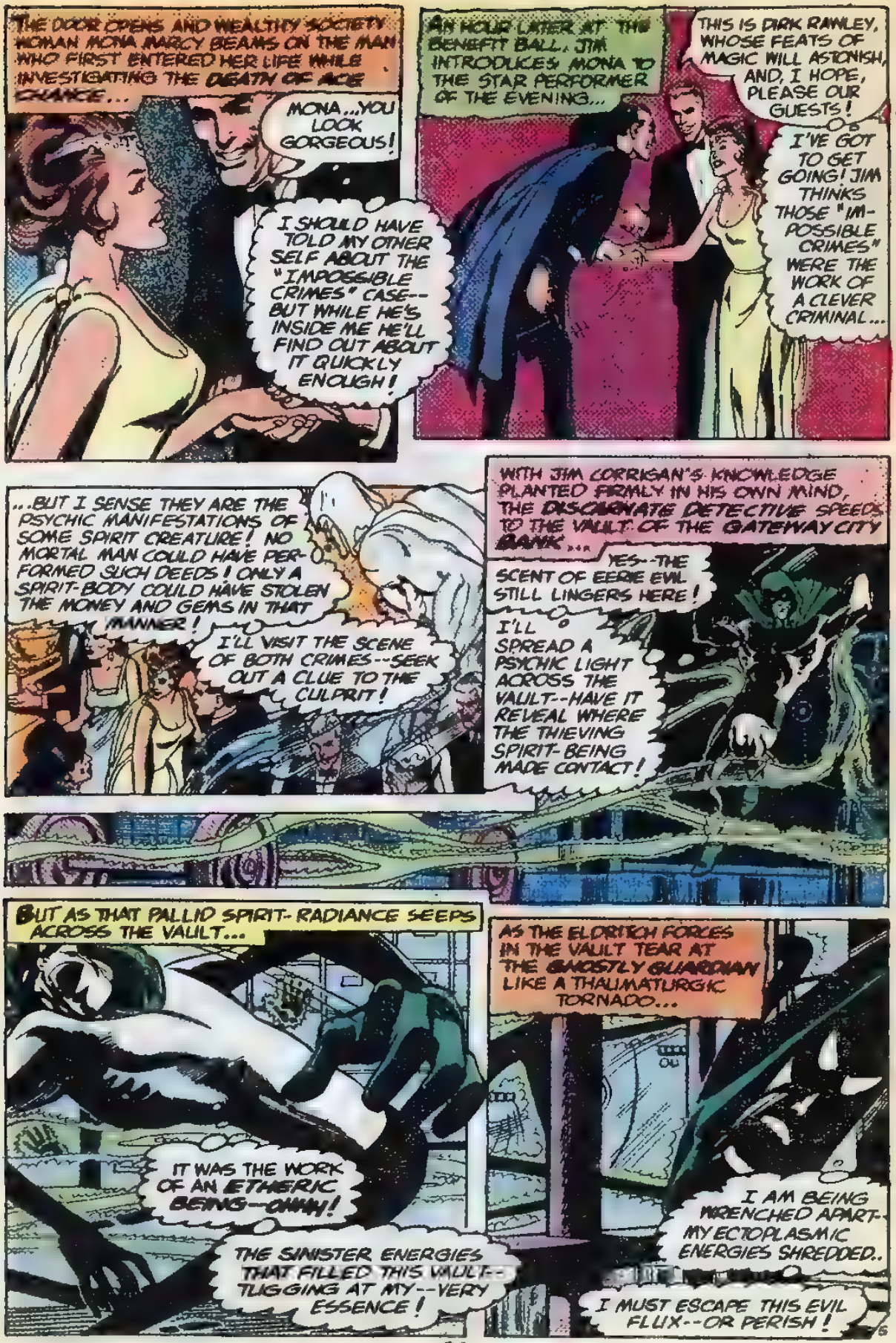
I WAS, JIM--BUT THE CASE WAS AN EXHAUSTING ONE! I NEED A REST IN YOUR--"OUR"--BODY!

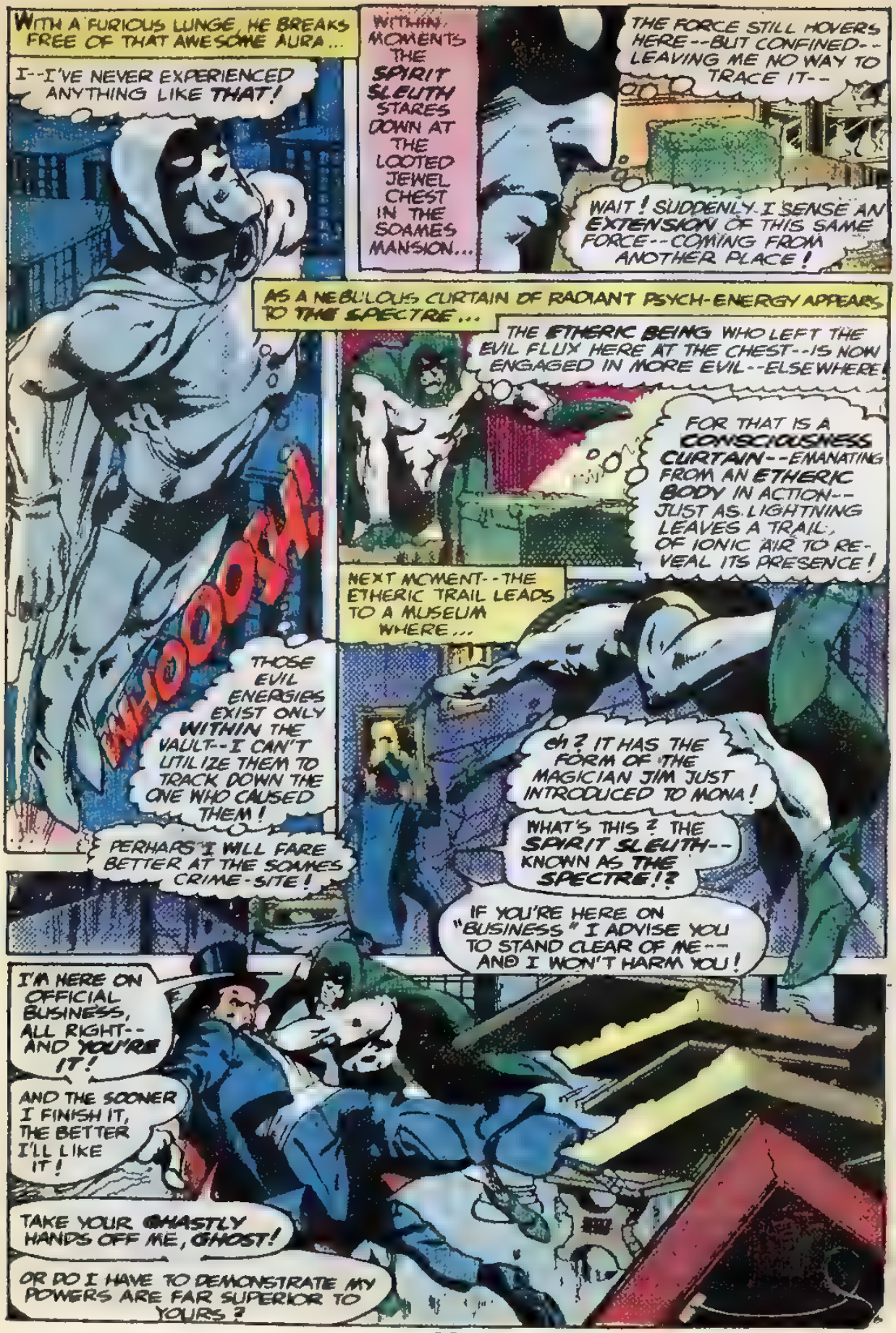
THE SPECTRE! GIVEN LIFE BY THE MYSTIC POWERS OF A VOICE WHICH EXPLAINED THAT HIS WORK WAS NOT YET DONE, THE GHOST OF DEAD JIM CORRIGAN (SLAIN BY GANGSTER "GAT" BENSON) BECAME A SPIRIT-BEING DEDICATED TO THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE APPREHENSION OF WRONG-DOERS!

WHEN DETECTIVE JIM CORRIGAN WAS ALSO RAISED FROM THE DEAD TO LIVE AGAIN AS HIS FORMER SELF, THERE BEGAN A STRANGE TWIN-EXISTENCE OF MAN AND SPIRIT, UNITED--YET DISUNITED--BOTH DEDICATED TO STAMPING OUT EVIL!

WAIT--I'M GOING ON A DATE WITH MONA MARCY! COULDN'T YOU ARRANGE TO LET US HAVE SOME PRIVACY?

GIVING ME THE BRUSH-OFF, JIM? OKAY--I'LL LEAVE YOU ON YOUR OWN--SOON AS I RESTORE MY PSYCHIC ENERGIES WITHIN YOU!


THE DOOR OPENS AND WEALTHY SOCIETY WOMAN MONA MARCY BEAMS ON THE MAN WHO FIRST ENTERED HER LIFE WHILE INVESTIGATING THE DEATH OF ACE CHANCE...
MONA...YOU LOOK GORGEOUS!
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD MY OTHER SELF ABOUT THE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES" CASE--BUT WHILE HE'S INSIDE ME HE'LL FIND OUT ABOUT IT QUICKLY ENOUGH!
AN HOUR LATER AT THE BENEFIT BALL, JIM INTRODUCES MONA TO THE STAR PERFORMER OF THE EVENING...
THIS IS DIRK RAWLEY, WHOSE FEATS OF MAGIC WILL ASTONISH, AND, I HOPE, PLEASE OUR GUESTS!
I'VE GOT TO GET GOING! JIM THINKS THOSE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES" WERE THE WORK OF A CLEVER CRIMINAL...
...BUT I SENSE THEY ARE THE PSYCHIC MANIFESTATIONS OF SOME SPIRIT CREATURE! NO MORTAL MAN COULD HAVE PERFORMED SUCH DEEDS! ONLY A SPIRIT-BODY COULD HAVE STOLEN THE MONEY AND GEMS IN THAT MANNER!
I'LL VISIT THE SCENE OF BOTH CRIMES--SEEK OUT A CLUE TO THE CULPRIT!
WITH JIM CORRIGAN'S KNOWLEDGE PLANTED FIRMLY IN HIS OWN MIND, THE DISCARNATE DETECTIVE SPEEDS TO THE VAULT OF THE GATEWAY CITY BANK...
YES--THE SCENT OF EERIE EVIL STILL LINGERS HERE!
I'LL SPREAD A PSYCHIC LIGHT ACROSS THE VAULT--HAVE IT REVEAL WHERE THE THIEVING SPIRIT-BEING MADE CONTACT!
BUT AS THAT PALLID SPIRIT-RADIANCE SEEPS ACROSS THE VAULT...
IT WAS THE WORK OF AN ETHERIC BEING--OHHH!
THE SINISTER ENERGIES THAT FILLED THIS VAULT--TUGGING AT MY--VERY ESSENCE!
AS THE ELDRITCH FORCES IN THE VAULT TEAR AT THE GHOSTLY GUARDIAN LIKE A THAUMATURGIC TORNADO...
I AM BEING WRENCHED APART--MY ECTOPLASMIC ENERGIES SHREDDED..
I MUST ESCAPE THIS EVIL FLUX--OR PERISH!


WITH A FURIOUS LUNGE, HE BREAKS FREE OF THAT AWESOME AURA...
I--I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
WHOOOSH!
WITHIN MOMENTS THE SPIRIT SLEUTH STARES DOWN AT THE LOOTED JEWEL CHEST IN THE SOAMES MANSION...
THE FORCE STILL HOVERS HERE--BUT CONFINED--LEAVING ME NO WAY TO TRACE IT--
WAIT! SUDDENLY I SENSE AN EXTENSION OF THIS SAME FORCE--COMING FROM ANOTHER PLACE!
AS A NEBULOUS CURTAIN OF RADIANT PSYCH-ENERGY APPEARS TO THE SPECTRE...
THE ETHERIC BEING WHO LEFT THE EVIL FLUX HERE AT THE CHEST--IS NOW ENGAGED IN MORE EVIL--ELSEWHERE!
FOR THAT IS A CONSCIOUSNESS CURTAIN--EMANATING FROM AN ETHERIC BODY IN ACTION--JUST AS LIGHTNING LEAVES A TRAIL OF IONIC AIR TO REVEAL ITS PRESENCE!
THOSE EVIL ENERGIES EXIST ONLY WITHIN THE VAULT--I CAN'T UTILIZE THEM TO TRACK DOWN THE ONE WHO CAUSED THEM!
PERHAPS I WILL FARE BETTER AT THE SOAMES CRIME-SITE!
NEXT MOMENT--THE ETHERIC TRAIL LEADS TO A MUSEUM WHERE...
eh? IT HAS THE FORM OF THE MAGICIAN JIM JUST INTRODUCED TO MONA!
WHAT'S THIS? THE SPIRIT SLEUTH--KNOWN AS THE SPECTRE!?
IF YOU'RE HERE ON "BUSINESS" I ADVISE YOU TO STAND CLEAR OF ME--AND I WON'T HARM YOU!
I'M HERE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS, ALL RIGHT--AND YOU'RE IT!
AND THE SOONER I FINISH IT, THE BETTER I'LL LIKE IT!
TAKE YOUR GHASTLY HANDS OFF ME, GHOST!
OR DO I HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWERS ARE FAR SUPERIOR TO YOURS?

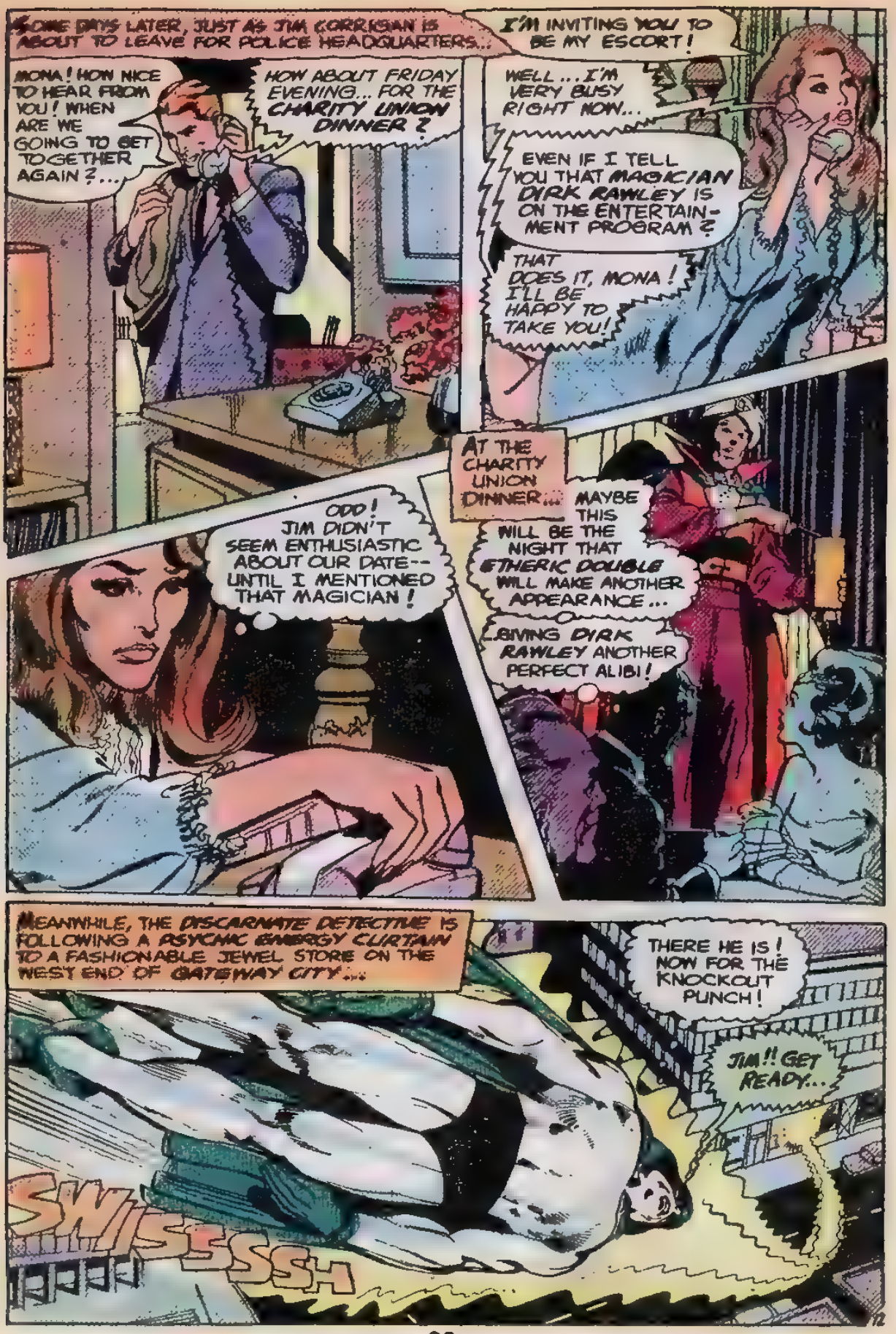
MY STAY IN DEMONIAC ARKHAM TOWN SERVED TO MAKE ME THE MOST POWERFUL BEING IN THE UNIVERSE!
KRAK
NOTHING CAN WITHSTAND ME--LIVING OR OTHERWISE!
HIS CLOAK--EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM--FILLED WITH EERIE ENERGIES--REPELLING ME!
THAT WAS--A NEAT TRICK!
BUT I'LL TOP IT--BY PULLING SOME STARTLING STUNTS OF MY OWN!
KEEP YOUR EYE ON THAT RABBIT, SPECTRE--
IT'S GROWING--LARGER--AND LARGER..!
YOU MIGHT CALL THAT BLOW A "RABBIT PUNCH"! HA HA!
WHUMP
WHILE YOU'RE "PULLING"--I'LL PULL A RABBIT OUT OF MY HIGH-HAT!
THE RABBIT'S FULL OF THAT SAME EVIL ETHERIC ENERGY--AGAINST WHICH MY OWN SPECTRAL ABILITIES ARE SEEMINGLY USELESS!
AH! A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS UP MY SLEEVE--
BEARING THE SWEET SMELL OF--DEFEAT--FOR THE SPECTRE!
SUMMONING UP THE POWERS OF GOOD WITH WHICH HIS BODY IS IMBUED, THE DISEMBODIED DETECTIVE GRASPS THE RUTHLESS RABBIT AND...
GOOD GIVES ME ADDED "STRENGTH"--BUT IT'S ONLY A TEMPORARY THING! MUST QUICKLY OVERCOME THAT ETHERIC BODY BEFORE--

NOW FOR A RAPID-FIRE FOLLOW-UP ON MY OWN--
--HITTING HIM HARD ENOUGH TO KNOCK ALL THAT EVIL STUFFING OUT OF HIM!
WAP
KRACKLE
IT'S MY DEAL AGAIN, SPECTRE--
AS I CHANGE THE NAME OF OUR GAME!!
FRRRIP
POW
THE CARDS-- GROWING LARGE AS DID THE RABBIT!
AND FIGURES ON IT COMING ALIVE-- ATTACKING ME!
CLUB HIM JACK!
THE AIR IS FILLED WITH THE SNAP AND CRACKLE OF ETHERIC ENERGIES BEATING THE GHOSTLY GUARDIAN...
KRAK
WHAMP

THOSE CARDS LOOK LIKE BIG SAILS-- AND SAILS REACT TO WIND!
SO I'LL BLOW UP A STORM--
SLAM THE CARDS INTO ONE ANOTHER!
BAWHOOOSH
THOUGH RACKED WITH PSYCHIC WEAKNESS, THE SPECTRE STAGGERS TOWARD HIS LOOT-HAPPY FOE...
ALMOST FORGOT WHAT BROUGHT ME HERE... TO GATHER UP THESE ART TREASURES...
SNOK
I REFUSE TO CONCEDE HIS POWERS ARE STRONGER THAN MINE!

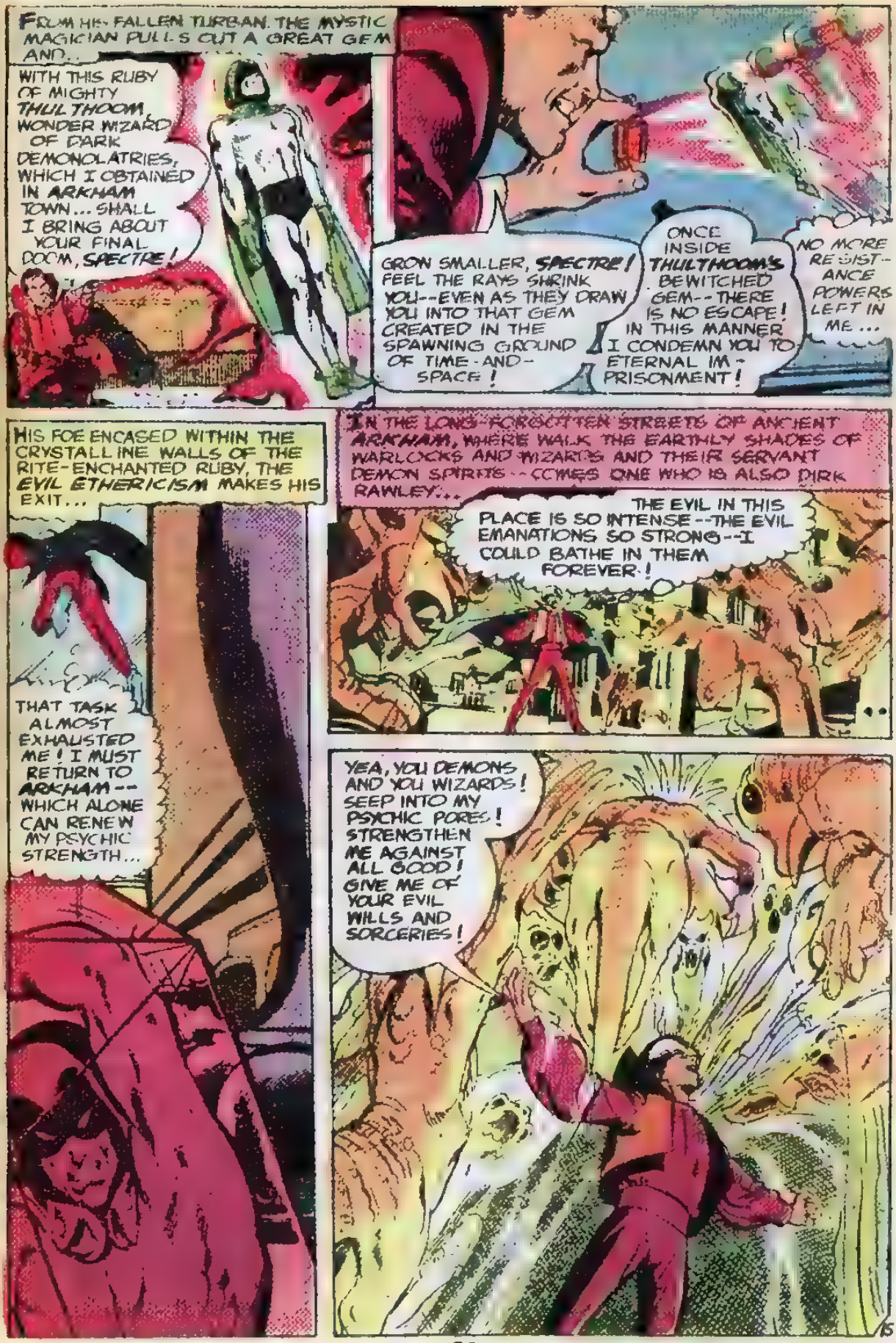
IF YOU INSIST ON A FIGHT TO THE FINISH, SO BE IT!
DIE, SPECTRE--AGAIN!
WRITHING AND TWISTING, THE VARI-COLORED SASH TWINES ABOUT THE STRUGGLING BODY OF THE DIS-EMBODIED DETECTIVE...
NO WAY TO TEAR IT LOOSE--IT'S TOO STRONG FOR ME!
IS THIS THE END?
THIS THING IS LIKE A LIVING, ETHERIC SNAKE--GRIP!
GETTING TIGHTER--TIGHTER--SQUEEZ-ING ALL THE ENERGY OUT OF ME...
ONLY ONE PART OF ME IS STILL FREE TO MOVE...
HIS BOOT STAMPS THE FLOOR--AND IN ANSWER TO THAT OUT-POURING OF PSYCHIC ENERGY, ASTRAL FLAMES LEAP UPWARD...
A SPIRIT FLAME TO BURN A SPIRIT SASH!
THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!
BY THE TIME THE SPECTRE BURSTS FREE OF THE BLAZING SATIN...
HE'S GONE--WITH HIS LOOT!
AND SINCE HE IS NO LONGER IN ACTION--I HAVE NO WAY OF FOLLOWING HIM!

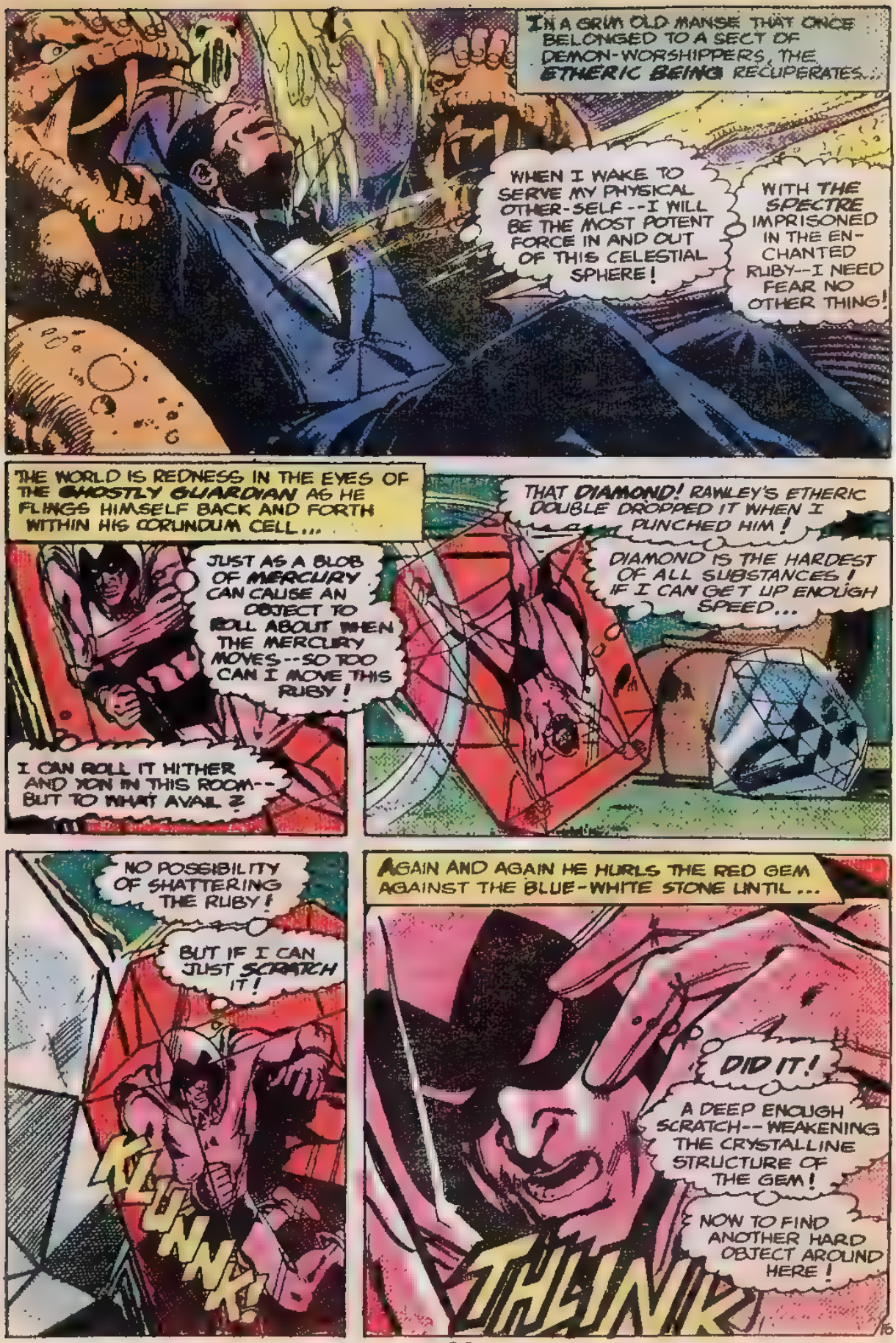
LATER, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS LONDON BEDROOM ...
YOU SAY YOU TANGLED WITH THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES"?
WELL, JUST DON'T SIT THERE! TELL ME -- WHO WAS HE?
DIRK RAWLEY!
THE MAGICIAN? BUT THAT'S AS IMPOSSIBLE AS THOSE "IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES"!
HE WAS AT THE BALL ALL NIGHT LONG! I SAW HIM --
NEVERTHELESS, HE WAS ROBBING AN ART MUSEUM!
AT LEAST -- HIS ETHERIC BODY WAS ROBBING IT!
WHAT IN THUNDER IS AN "ETHERIC BODY"?
IT'S A SPIRIT COUNTERPART OF THE HUMAN BODY WHICH IT RESEMBLES -- AND USUALLY SUBJECT TO THE COMMANDS OF ITS PHYSICAL DOUBLE!
BY CHANGING ITS DENSITY, AN ETHERIC DOUBLE CAN PASS THROUGH SOLID WALLS -- YET KEEP ITSELF SOLID ENOUGH TO PICK UP TANGIBLE OBJECTS! BY SURROUNDING THESE SOLID OBJECTS WITH ITS AURA, IT IS ABLE TO TRANSPORT THEM THROUGH WALLS!
NUMEROUS CASES OF ETHERIC DOUBLES HAVE BEEN AUTHENTICATED! AS AN EXAMPLE, IN 1774 ALPHONSE DI LIGUORI, WHILE IN PRISON, WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY SEEN AT THE DEATH-BED OF POPE CLEMENT XIV!
RESPECTED RESEARCHERS LIKE DR. OCHOROWICZ HAVE TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF THIS PHENOMENON -- WHICH IS ALSO KNOWN AS BILOCATION --
OKAY, OKAY! I'LL BUY THAT IF YOU SAY SO! NOW TELL ME --
HOW DO WE STOP THIS SPOOK CROOK?
THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN MULLING OVER!
THERE IS A CHANCE THAT, IF YOU HIT THE PHYSICAL DIRK RAWLEY AT THE SAME TIME THAT I HIT HIS ETHERIC BODY -- WE MAY "KNOCK" IT OUT OF EXISTENCE!

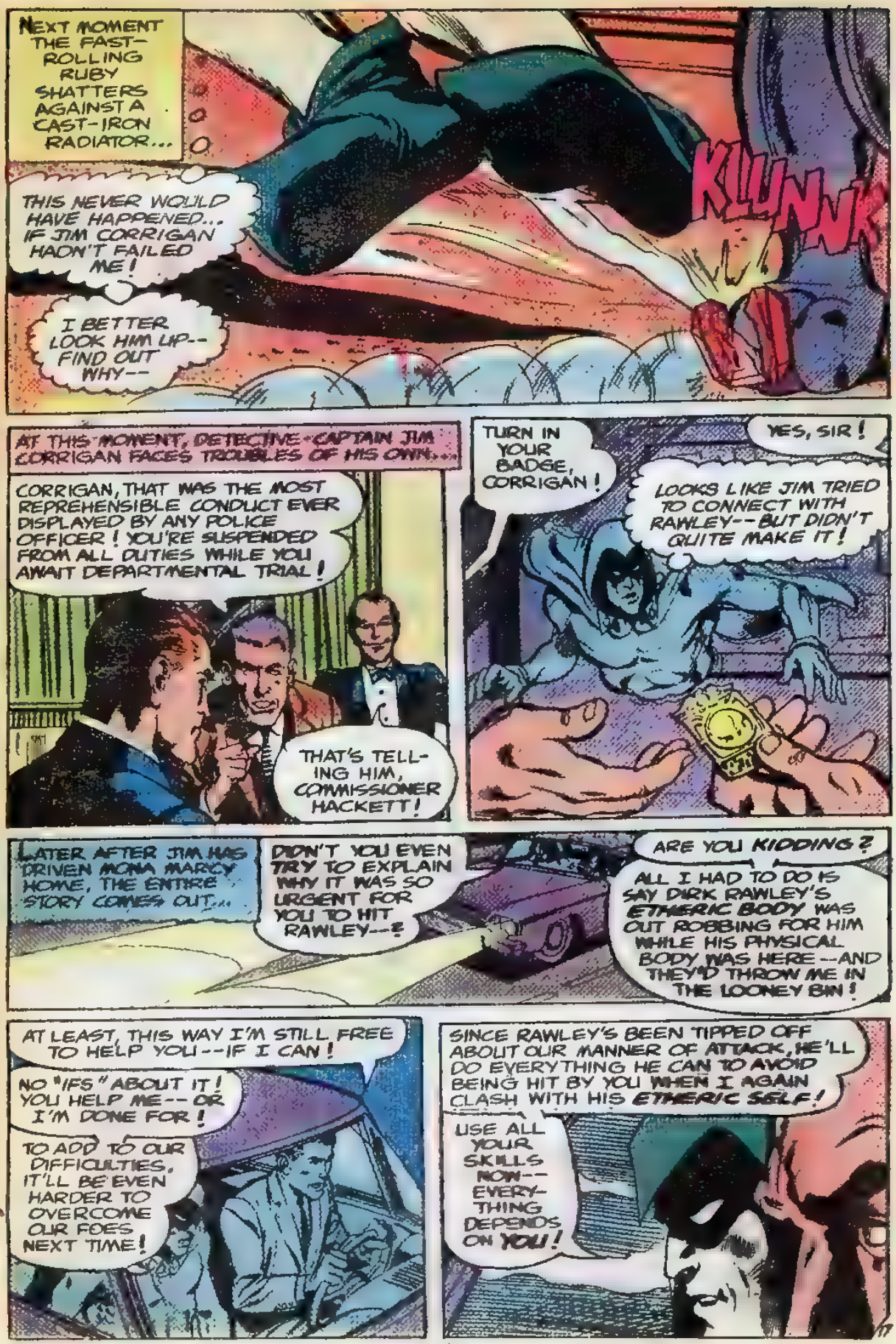

SOME DAYS LATER, JUST AS JIM CORRIGAN IS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
I'M INVITING YOU TO BE MY ESCORT!
MONA! HOW NICE TO HEAR FROM YOU! WHEN ARE WE GOING TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN?...
HOW ABOUT FRIDAY EVENING... FOR THE CHARITY UNION DINNER?
WELL... I'M VERY BUSY RIGHT NOW...
EVEN IF I TELL YOU THAT MAGICIAN DIRK RAWLEY IS ON THE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM?
THAT DOES IT, MONA! I'LL BE HAPPY TO TAKE YOU!
AT THE CHARITY UNION DINNER...
MAYBE THIS WILL BE THE NIGHT THAT ETHERIC DOUBLE WILL MAKE ANOTHER APPEARANCE...
GIVING DIRK RAWLEY ANOTHER PERFECT ALIBI!
ODD! JIM DIDN'T SEEM ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT OUR DATE-- UNTIL I MENTIONED THAT MAGICIAN!
MEANWHILE, THE DISCARNATE DETECTIVE IS FOLLOWING A PSYCHIC ENERGY CURTAIN TO A FASHIONABLE JEWEL STORE ON THE WEST END OF GATEWAY CITY...
THERE HE IS! NOW FOR THE KNOCKOUT PUNCH!
JIM!! GET READY...
SWISSSSH

BACK AT THE CHARITY DINNER...
JIM! GET READY...
WHA...?
IT'S TIME FOR DOUBLE-ACTION!
I'M CLOSING IN! HURRY-- GET NEAR RAWLEY!
REMEMBER-- WE HAVE TO SYNCHRONIZE OUR BLOWS! STRIKE OUR TARGETS AT THE SAME INSTANT!
PLEASE EXCUSE ME, MONA...
PLUNK!
JIM! OH, MY GOODNESS-- HE'S RUN AMOK!
CAPTAIN CORRIGAN! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO..?
NOW, JIM... NOW!!
UHH!! HE DUCKED UNDER MY FIST!
BEFORE JIM CAN STRIKE ANOTHER BLOW...
CALM DOWN, MAN!
LET GO OF ME! I HAVE TO HIT HIM!
CORRIGAN, I'M GOING TO PREFER CHARGES AGAINST YOU FOR THIS UN-WARRANTED ATTACK!

EVEN AS JIM STRUGGLES SAVAGELY TO REACH HIS QUARRY--THE DISEMBODIED DETECTIVE MAKES CONTACT WITH DIRK RAWLEY'S ETHERIC DOUBLE...
NOW, JIM--NOW!! WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?!
SWOKK
BACK AGAIN FOR UN-FINISHED BUSINESS, SPECTRE?
ALL RIGHT... LET'S SETTLE IT... HERE AND NOW!
JIM--DIDN'T--HIT--HIS MAN!
NOW I'M REALLY IN FOR IT!
ZZZT!
YOU'VE HEARD OF FLYING CARPETS, SPECTRE? NOW SEE ONE--UNLIKE ANY YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT!
IT'S ENERGIZED TO BEAT YOU TO A PHANTOM PULP!
ZZZZZZT!
PARALYZING MY BODY...! SAPPING MY STRENGTH...!
THOUGH RACKED BY EVIL ENERGY, THE SPECTRE MANAGES TO FLING THE MAGICAL RUG AWAY FROM HIM...
WHAP!
WITH EACH CONTACT OF THAT ENERGY, I GROW WEAKER!
HOW MUCH LONGER CAN I HOLD OUT?
ZZZZT!


FROM HIS FALLEN TURBAN THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN PULLS OUT A GREAT GEM AND...
WITH THIS RUBY OF MIGHTY THULTHOOM, WONDER WIZARD OF DARK DEMONOLATRIES, WHICH I OBTAINED IN ARKHAM TOWN... SHALL I BRING ABOUT YOUR FINAL DOOM, SPECTRE!
GROW SMALLER, SPECTRE! FEEL THE RAYS SHRINK YOU--EVEN AS THEY DRAW YOU INTO THAT GEM CREATED IN THE SPAWNING GROUND OF TIME-AND-SPACE!
ONCE INSIDE THULTHOOM'S BEWITCHED GEM--THERE IS NO ESCAPE! IN THIS MANNER I CONDEMN YOU TO ETERNAL IMPRISONMENT!
NO MORE RESISTANCE POWERS LEFT IN ME...
HIS FOE ENCASED WITHIN THE CRYSTALLINE WALLS OF THE RITE-ENCHANTED RUBY, THE EVIL ETHERICISM MAKES HIS EXIT...
THAT TASK ALMOST EXHAUSTED ME! I MUST RETURN TO ARKHAM--WHICH ALONE CAN RENEW MY PSYCHIC STRENGTH...
IN THE LONG-FORGOTTEN STREETS OF ANCIENT ARKHAM, WHERE WALK THE EARTHLY SHADES OF WARLOCKS AND WIZARDS AND THEIR SERVANT DEMON SPIRITS--COMES ONE WHO IS ALSO DIRK RAWLEY...
THE EVIL IN THIS PLACE IS SO INTENSE--THE EVIL EMANATIONS SO STRONG--I COULD BATHE IN THEM FOREVER!
YEA, YOU DEMONS AND YOU WIZARDS! SEEP INTO MY PSYCHIC PORES! STRENGTHEN ME AGAINST ALL GOOD! GIVE ME OF YOUR EVIL WILLS AND SORCERIES!


IN A GRIM OLD MANSE THAT ONCE BELONGED TO A SECT OF DEMON-WORSHIPPERS, THE ETHERIC BEING RECUPERATES...
WHEN I WAKE TO SERVE MY PHYSICAL OTHER-SELF--I WILL BE THE MOST POTENT FORCE IN AND OUT OF THIS CELESTIAL SPHERE!
WITH THE SPECTRE IMPRISONED IN THE ENCHANTED RUBY--I NEED FEAR NO OTHER THING!
THE WORLD IS REDNESS IN THE EYES OF THE GHOSTLY GUARDIAN AS HE FLINGS HIMSELF BACK AND FORTH WITHIN HIS CORUNDUM CELL...
JUST AS A BLOB OF MERCURY CAN CAUSE AN OBJECT TO ROLL ABOUT WHEN THE MERCURY MOVES--SO TOO CAN I MOVE THIS RUBY!
I CAN ROLL IT HITHER AND YON IN THIS ROOM--BUT TO WHAT AVAIL?
THAT DIAMOND! RAWLEY'S ETHERIC DOUBLE DROPPED IT WHEN I PUNCHED HIM!
DIAMOND IS THE HARDEST OF ALL SUBSTANCES! IF I CAN GET UP ENOUGH SPEED...
NO POSSIBILITY OF SHATTERING THE RUBY!
BUT IF I CAN JUST SCRATCH IT!
KLUNK!
AGAIN AND AGAIN HE HURLS THE RED GEM AGAINST THE BLUE-WHITE STONE UNTIL...
DID IT!
A DEEP ENOUGH SCRATCH--WEAKENING THE CRYSTALLINE STRUCTURE OF THE GEM!
NOW TO FIND ANOTHER HARD OBJECT AROUND HERE!
THLINK!


NEXT MOMENT THE FAST-ROLLING RUBY SHATTERS AGAINST A CAST-IRON RADIATOR...
KLUNNK
THIS NEVER WOULD HAVE HAPPENED... IF JIM CORRIGAN HADN'T FAILED ME!
I BETTER LOOK HIM UP-- FIND OUT WHY--
AT THIS MOMENT, DETECTIVE-CAPTAIN JIM CORRIGAN FACES TROUBLES OF HIS OWN...
CORRIGAN, THAT WAS THE MOST REPREHENSIBLE CONDUCT EVER DISPLAYED BY ANY POLICE OFFICER! YOU'RE SUSPENDED FROM ALL DUTIES WHILE YOU AWAIT DEPARTMENTAL TRIAL!
THAT'S TELLING HIM, COMMISSIONER HACKETT!
TURN IN YOUR BADGE, CORRIGAN!
YES, SIR!
LOOKS LIKE JIM TRIED TO CONNECT WITH RAWLEY--BUT DIDN'T QUITE MAKE IT!
LATER AFTER JIM HAS DRIVEN MONA MARCY HOME, THE ENTIRE STORY COMES OUT...
DIDN'T YOU EVEN TRY TO EXPLAIN WHY IT WAS SO URGENT FOR YOU TO HIT RAWLEY--?
ARE YOU KIDDING?
ALL I HAD TO DO IS SAY DIRK RAWLEY'S ETHERIC BODY WAS OUT ROBBING FOR HIM WHILE HIS PHYSICAL BODY WAS HERE--AND THEY'D THROW ME IN THE LOONEY BIN!
AT LEAST, THIS WAY I'M STILL FREE TO HELP YOU--IF I CAN!
NO "IFS" ABOUT IT! YOU HELP ME--OR I'M DONE FOR!
TO ADD TO OUR DIFFICULTIES, IT'LL BE EVEN HARDER TO OVERCOME OUR FOES NEXT TIME!
SINCE RAWLEY'S BEEN TIPPED OFF ABOUT OUR MANNER OF ATTACK, HE'LL DO EVERYTHING HE CAN TO AVOID BEING HIT BY YOU WHEN I AGAIN CLASH WITH HIS ETHERIC SELF!
USE ALL YOUR SKILLS NOW--EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON YOU!

FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS THE SUSPENDED DETECTIVE-CAPTAIN TRAILS THE STAGE MAGICIAN WITHOUT SUCCESS--UNTIL ONE NIGHT...
GATEWAY PLAYLAND
GOING INTO THIS AMUSE-MENT PARK?
IS HE TRYING TO HAVE FUN AT MY EXPENSE?
JIM! I'VE MADE CONTACT WITH THE ETHERIC CURTAIN WHICH REVEALS RAWLEY'S DOUBLE IS IN ACTION!
I'M READY FOR ACTION WHENEVER YOU ARE, SPECTRE!
HE KEEPS LOOKING AT HIS WATCH!
SOMETHING'S UP ALL RIGHT! I BETTER KEEP CLOSER TO HIM...
THE NEXT MOMENT...
TAKING AN AIRPLANE RIDE.. AS IT GETS CLOSE TO THE ELEVENTH HOUR!
GOT TO TAKE A FLYER, TOO!
AIRPLA RIDE
HOLD IT, MISTER! WE'RE ALL FILLED UP!
YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT RIDE!
BUT THAT'LL BE TOO LATE! I CAN'T FAIL, THE SPECTRE AGAIN!

HIS FACE ETCHED IN DISMAY, JIM SEES HIS QUARRY SPIN OUT OF REACH...
JIM... I SEE THE ETHERIC DOUBLE! HURRY... GET WITHIN HITTING DISTANCE OF DIRK RAWLEY!
HOW CAN I GET CLOSE TO HIM WHEN HE'S AWAY UP THERE... AND I'M AWAY DOWN HERE?
ALL SET, JIM? I'LL GIVE YOU A TWENTY-SECOND COUNTDOWN!
AT ZERO... HIT HIM HARD!
JUST GOT AN IDEA! I HAVE A FRIEND NOT FAR FROM HERE!
TWENTY--
ED, YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME!
I'VE READ ABOUT YOUR TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, JIM!
I SHOULDN'T DO IT-- BUT OUT OF OLD FRIENDSHIP... GET IN!
THIRTEEN-- TWELVE...
HUMAN CANNONBALL

AIM THE CANNON AT THE AIRPLANE RIDE, ED...
AND DON'T MISS!
SEVEN--SIX...
FOUR... THREE...
BA-ROOOM
OH NO! I'M GOING TO MISS HIM!
TWO...
SWOK!
ZERO!
AT THE LAST MOMENT...
CONTACT!
ZERO!!
AT THIS VERY INSTANT--SOME MILES AWAY...

AFTER THOSE SIMULTANEOUS BLOWS THUD HOME...
IT--WORKED!
NOW TO IMPRISON THIS ETHERIC BODY IN A MORE ESCAPE-PROOF CELL THAN THE ONE IT PREPARED FOR ME!
SOON AFTER, IN WIZARD-ENSORCELLED ARKHAM, THE SPIRIT SLEUTH PERFORMS SPECIAL RITES AND INCANTATIONS TO COMBAT THE EVIL EMANATIONS OF THE DEMONS AND FIENDS THAT FLOCK ABOUT...
THIS PSYCHIC RADIATION OF GOODNESS WILL SEAL OFF THE ETHERIC BODY FROM THE EVIL UPON WHICH IT FEEDS!
WITHOUT THAT EVIL TO SUSTAIN HIM--HE WILL LIE INERT FOR ALL TIME!
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, A LITTLE LATER...
YOU CAN'T HOLD ME! I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!
HOW ABOUT IT, CORRIGAN? DO YOU HAVE ANY PROOF DIRK RAWLEY IS A THIEF? IF YOU HOPE TO CLEAR YOURSELF, YOU'D BETTER PRODUCE IT!
I HAVE PROOF, POLICE COMMISSIONER!
HERE'S THE LOOT HIS ETHERIC SELF STOLE, WHICH I FOUND IN ARKHAM!
BUT NO DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN THE WORLD COULD HOPE TO CONVINCE A JURY IT WAS THE PHYSICAL DIRK RAWLEY THAT FORCED HIS SO-CALLED ETHERIC TWIN TO COMMIT THOSE ROBBERIES!
I CAME PREPARED FOR THAT!
LET ME INTRODUCE HUBERT DESMOND--FIRST HOLDUP VICTIM OF DIRK RAWLEY AND HIS ETHERIC DUPLICATE!
HE'S BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL EVER SINCE THEIR ROBBERY ATTACK!
I'M PREPARED TO TESTIFY THAT DIRK RAWLEY ROBBED ME!

IT'S YOUR WORD AGAINST MINE--AND I DENY IT!
YOU CAN'T DENY IT--WHEN YOU'RE WEARING MY STOLEN WATCH!
Y-YOUR WATCH? THERE'S NOTHING ON IT TO PROVE IT'S YOURS!
COMMISSIONER--PLEASE OPEN THE BACK OF THE WATCH!
SURE ENOUGH! IT HAS YOUR NAME ON IT, MR. DESMOND!
Made especially for ROBERT DESMOND MAY 1966
THAT'S ALL THE PROOF WE'LL NEED TO PUT RAWLEY AWAY!

AFTER DIRK RAWLEY IS BOOKED FOR ROBBERY...
WHAT CAN I SAY, JIM--EXCEPT THAT NATURALLY YOUR RANK IS RESTORED AND CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE!
I'M GRATEFUL ALL MY CASES AREN'T AS TOUGH AS THIS ONE!
TO ECHO MY OTHER SELF: I'M ALSO GRATEFUL ALL MY CASES AREN'T AS TOUGH AS THIS ONE!
The End

# THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES:

The chronological reprinting of the early adventures of the Legion of Super-Heroes picks up steam this issue, as we begin the period which neatly neques into their own series. The first eight canonical Legion stories have already been featured in ADVENTURE COMICS DIGEST #491-494, and now we're already at the point where the Legion is an established part of the "Superman Family" of characters used by then editor Mort Weisinger to liven up the various Superman titles by occasional appearances. The plus side of this for the early Legion fans was the regular appearances of their heroes—the negative was the heavy burden of having fallen into a bit of a formula *before* their first series story.

"The Secret Of The Seventh Super-Hero" (originally from ADVENTURE COMICS #290, November, 1961) is representative of that formula...as to a lesser degree is our second story. This early formula basically consisted of a new Legionnaire being introduced (or in Sun Boy's case in this tale, being featured prominently for the first time) and journeying to Superboy's time on some mission or another. The rest of the team stayed way in the background, if they appeared at all, and no use was made of the thirtieth century's potential for science fiction and fantastic adventure. The formula was used before with Star Boy and would return with Ultra Boy in a tale we'll reprint next issue.

As we mentioned before, there's another important oddity to this issue's first Legion reprint—when first published, it was almost a reprint. Almost exactly a hundred issues earlier, in ADVENTURE COMICS #191 (August, 1953), a story called "The Two Clark Kents" had featured the exact same plotline about the juvenile delinquent who looked like Clark—except that instead of the Sun Boy/Legion plot, there was a tale about hostages and armored cars woven in. Even some of the dialogue was reproduced exactly. Weisinger did this from time to time, and no one is quite sure why.

Otherwise the story is rather unexceptional as Legion lore—even the idea of a secret Legion handshake serving as a due ex machina to resolve the mystery helps rather than hinders the excitement. Our other selection is the more interesting.

In "The Legion Of Super-Traitors" (ADVENTURE COMICS #293, February, 1962—the closeness of the two appearances showing how the popularity of the characters was building) features the usual small errors in continuity common to the Legion's early years—a Time "Cabinet" instead of Time Bubble—but is one of the first stories to tie together diverse elements of the Weisinger version of Superman's universe.

Here for the first time the Legionnaires meet Mon-El, who steps from the Phantom Zone to try to aid Superboy—and who would next reappear as a member of the LSH. Krypto, Beppo, Streaky, Supergirl, the Phantom Zone, and even Comet—the super-horse who had not yet been introduced in Supergirl's series—all came together. The Legionnaires would meet this "Legion of Super-Pets" again a couple of times in their own series, but it obviously was not an idea with a lot of life to it.

More long lasting was a problem poised in this issue—what information could Superboy be given about his own future (in this case, about the future existence of a Supergirl who was his cousin) and what would have to be withheld. As long time Legion fans know, this was resolved by the use of a "post-hypontic command given Superboy by Saturn Girl ordering him to forget information about his own future when he returned to his own time." But that is still part of the Legion's future...a future we shall return to, next issue, for two Legion-Supergirl stories.

—Paul Levitz

## 100 PAGES OF NON-STOP ADVENTURE!